



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

September 27, 2019

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Austin R. Evers
Executive Director
American Oversight
1030 15th Street, Suite B255
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request No. EPA-HQ-2019-007052

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter concerns the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on July 3, 2019, in which you requested the following: *"Mandy Gunasekara, former Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air and Radiation, left the federal government in February 2019 and founded the Energy 45 Fund to advocate for the president's energy agenda. During her time at EPA, Gunasekara helped shape and implement many of the administration's environmental initiatives and major deregulatory actions, including withdrawing from the Paris Climate Accord, repealing the Clean Power Plan, drafting the replacement Affordable Clean Energy rule, streamlining permits and adjusting vehicle standards."*

American Oversight seeks records to shed light on whether and to what extent Ms. Gunasekara continues to influence federal policy now that she has departed the EPA.

American Oversight requests that EPA produce the following records within twenty business days:

This request includes all prior messages (whether incoming or outgoing) reflected in the responsive correspondence and any attachments thereto. For parts 3 and 4, please provide all responsive records from January 20, 2017, through the date of the search."

All records reflecting communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, or WhatsApp), telephone call logs, calendar invitations, calendar entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, draft legislation, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) involving Amanda "Mandy" Gunasekara or any employee or representative of the Energy 45 Fund (also referred to as Energy45), including but not limited to anyone using an email address ending in @energy45.org.

American Oversight requests that EPA search the following officials:

- i. Secretary Andrew Wheeler, and anyone communicating on his behalf, such as a chief or deputy chief of staff, special or senior advisor, executive or special assistant, or scheduler;*
- ii. Acting Deputy Secretary Henry Darwin, and anyone communicating on his behalf, such as a chief or deputy chief of staff, special or senior advisor, executive or special assistant, or scheduler;*
- iii. Assistant Administrator of the Office of Air and Radiation Bill Wehrum, and anyone communicating on his behalf, such as a chief or deputy chief of staff, special or senior advisor, executive or special assistant, or scheduler;*
- iv. Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Air and Radiation Anne Isdal, and anyone communicating on her behalf, such as a chief or deputy chief of staff, special or senior advisor, executive or special assistant, or scheduler;*
- v. Anyone serving in the capacity of White House Liaison or White House Advisor; and*
- vi. Region 7 Regional Administrator James Gulliford, and anyone communicating on his behalf, such as a chief or deputy chief of staff, special or senior advisor, executive or special assistant, or scheduler.*

Please provide all responsive records from February 7, 2019, through the date of the search."

The Office of Air and Radiation has concluded its search for records responsive to your request and has determined that your request is partially granted and partially denied. The Agency released 127 pages of responsive records through FOIAonline. Portions of documents were withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6) because it contains personal information which would be an unwarranted invasion of privacy if released. There is no cost for the processing of this request.

This letter concludes our response to your request. You may appeal this response by email at hq.foia@epa.gov, or by mail to:

National FOIA Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (2310A)
Washington, D.C. 20460

Only items mailed through the United States Postal Service may be delivered to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue. If you are submitting your appeal by hand delivery, courier service, or overnight delivery, you must address your correspondence to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, William Jefferson Clinton North Building, Room 5315, Washington, DC 20460.

Your appeal must be in writing, and it must be received no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. The Agency will not consider appeals *received* after the 90-calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5:00 pm EST will be considered received the next business day. The appeal letter should include the FOIA tracking number listed above. For quickest possible handling, the subject line of your email, the appeal letter, and its envelope, if applicable, should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Additionally, you may seek dispute resolution services from EPA's FOIA Public Liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or (202) 566-1667, or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways: email, ogis@nara.gov; telephone, (202) 741-5770 or (877) 684-6448; facsimile (202) 741-5769; or by mail at:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510
8610 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001

We appreciate your interest in the EPA and our mission to protect public health and the environment. Should you choose to appeal this determination, please be sure to fully address all factors required by EPA's FOIA Regulations, located at 40 C.F.R., Part 2.104.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Shoaff", is positioned above the printed name.

John Shoaff
Director

Office of Air Policy and Program Support

Contact

Full Name: Mandy Gunasekara

E-mail: mandy@energy45.org

Message

From: Wilner, Michael [mwilner@mcclatchydc.com]
Sent: 4/1/2019 9:04:54 PM
To: Abboud, Michael [abboud.michael@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: Mandy Gunasekara contact info

Excellent... really helpful. Will reach out now.

On Mon, Apr 1, 2019 at 4:54 PM Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov> wrote:

Per our earlier convo here is Mandy's contact info. She can speak to work we've done under Trump at EPA.

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

mandy@energy45.org

Michael Abboud

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Public Affairs

M: 202-564-6461

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Michael A. Wilner

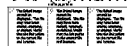
White House Correspondent

P 202-383-6083

C 917-364-9262

E mwilner@mcclatchydc.com

Tw @mawilner



From: Millett, John [Millett.John@epa.gov]
Sent: 6/19/2019 10:21:21 PM
To: Idsal, Anne [idsal.anne@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Trump climate rule could widen partisan state split

From: POLITICO Pro Energy
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 6:21:17 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: Millett, John
Subject: Trump climate rule could widen partisan state split

Trump climate rule could widen partisan state split

By Alex Guillén and Gavin Bade

06/19/2019 06:19 PM EDT

EPA's new climate change rule for power plants gives the red states that depend on coal the ability to keep open those aging facilities, widening an environmental divide with the blue states that are moving toward cleaner energy sources.

The Affordable Clean Energy rule released on Wednesday eliminates the state-by-state emission targets that were part of the more stringent Obama-era Clean Power Plan. Instead, it gives states significant authority to decide whether to require their power plants to install efficiency upgrades — or to skip doing anything at all, critics argue, undermining any national effort to combat greenhouse gases.

"It does allow laggard states to continue to rely more on coal and more on fossil fuels than they need to in order for us to continue addressing climate change," said Sierra Club attorney Andres Restrepo. "The question is ... how long will these stragglers continue to straggle along?"

The political split on environmental policy between states has been widening for years, even as coal power plants have been closing across the country at a rapid rate in both red and blue states as utilities shift to cheaper, cleaner natural gas and renewable sources. But many Democratic-controlled states, like California and New York, are shunning coal under policies explicitly designed to combat climate change amid the Trump administration's rollbacks.

GOP-controlled states that are home to 47 percent of the U.S. population still house two-thirds of the U.S.' coal electricity generating capacity, according to a POLITICO review of Energy Information Administration data, while states with Democratic governors and 53 percent of the population are home to only one-third of the total coal capacity.

But Mandy Gunasekara, a former Trump EPA appointee who worked on the ACE rule before starting a pro-Trump energy advocacy group in February, said the partisan divide over fuel use wasn't so clean.

"It's not necessarily about red and blue, it's about the states' relative energy mix," Gunasekara said, adding that there were a variety of reasons, such as historical efforts to move away from coal and regional resource issues, why blue states tend to burn less coal than their Republican neighbors.

EPA's new carbon rules gives states a list of technology options that they can use to improve coal plant heat rates, an efficiency measure of the amount of electricity derived from the fuel burned. Increasing that efficiency would allow power producers to emit less carbon per ton of coal — though it could prompt utilities to run those plants more often because they are more profitable.

The ACE rule also allows states to take into account several criteria when deciding whether to require any one coal plant to install any upgrades. Topping the list is "remaining useful life" — a phrase used in the Clean Air Act and which considers whether a plant could recoup its capital costs before being retired. States can also consider whether a plant has already installed pollution controls and whether it is physically possible to install the equipment.

Those criteria mean states could choose not to require plants to install any efficiency upgrades, while other coal plant operators could parlay their upgrades made in previous years into a longer life than they would have had otherwise.

The American Public Power Association, which represents community-owned, not-for-profit power companies and opposed the Obama rules, said allowing states to take those factors into account was reasonable approach.

"For generating plants that are required to comply with the rule, additional flexibility (such as considering remaining useful life) helps avoid stranded costs, which would be borne by the public power communities that these plants serve," said APPA spokesperson Tobias Sellier.

Sellier specifically cited upgrades that power plants made to comply with EPA's 2011 Mercury and Air Toxics Standard as the type of investments in regulatory compliance that states should consider under the new greenhouse gas rule.

Ted Cromwell, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's senior director for environmental issues, said plants that have already adopted the heat rate technologies laid out by EPA should be allowed to simply maintain that standard under the rule.

But environmentalists complain the flexibilities amount to a gift to the coal industry.

"If paying for your pollution makes you not economic anymore, there shouldn't be an easy out for that," said Restrepo, adding the rule simply makes it more likely that utilities with coal plants will "keep dragging their heels."

Julie McNamara, a senior energy analyst at the Union of Concerned Scientists agreed that the flexibility under the Trump plan would give coal-reliant states and utilities longer lives for those plants, but it wouldn't persuade them to build any new coal plants.

"That's all that coal plants have right now — it's just extending that timeline," she said.

Still, even the more flexible ACE rule won't alter the financial headwinds that many coal plants are facing, and some reliable coal states have shied away from propping them up. Lawmakers in Indiana recently rejected a measure to save plants slated for closure there, and coal-producing states in the Powder River Basin such as Wyoming and Montana in recent months have accelerated coal plant retirements.

Ultimately, while the ACE rule may allow red states to keep coal facilities open, experts say blue states aren't totally constrained from going further within their own borders.

"Nothing is stopping states from stepping up and regulating these units pretty heavily if they want to," said Restrepo. "The Clean Air Act does not prohibit the states from enforcing their own performance standards that are more stringent than whatever EPA has done."

Eric Wolff contributed to this report.

To view online:

<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/energy/article/2019/06/trump-climate-rule-could-widen-partisan-state-split-1539796>

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This email was sent to Millett.john@epa.gov by: POLITICO, LLC 1000 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

From: Gray, David [gray.david@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/21/2019 1:10:58 PM
To: Idsal, Anne [idsal.anne@epa.gov]; Chancellor, Erin [chancellor.erin@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Morning Energy: Docs reveal how Wehrum's former firm lobbied regs — California fuel economy talks end — On the FERC agenda

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MORNINGENERGY

02/21/2019 05:45 AM EDT

By KELSEY TAMBORRINO (ktamborrino@politico.com, [@kelseytam](https://twitter.com/kelseytam))

With help from Darius Dixon

QUICK FIX

— **Documents obtained by POLITICO reveal previously undisclosed details** into EPA air chief Bill Wehrum's role at his former firm as it coordinated with some of the largest coal-burning power companies to fight Obama-era environmental rules.

— **Negotiations over fuel economy standards** have officially ended — if they ever really started between California and the Trump administration, marking a potential stumbling block for EPA nominee Andrew Wheeler as the administration moves ahead with its proposal.

— **FERC could quickly run through the agenda today** at its monthly meeting, which has been delayed until 2 p.m. due to inclement weather.

GOOD MORNING! IT'S THURSDAY. I'm your host, Kelsey Tamborrino. Entergy's Rob Hall notch another trivia win for being the first to name John Gorrie of Florida, who is credited with inventing

modern refrigeration and air conditioning and is honored with a statue in the Capitol. For today: Once dubbed Minnesota's "boy governor," name the candidate who ran for president 10 times between 1948 and 1992. Send your tips, energy gossip and comments to ktamborrino@politico.com. Follow us on Twitter [@kelseytam](https://twitter.com/kelseytam), [@Morning_Energy](https://twitter.com/Morning_Energy) and [@POLITICOPro](https://twitter.com/POLITICOPro).

DRIVING THE DAY

HOW WEHRUM'S FORMER FIRM LOBBIED OBAMA REGS: The firm that formerly employed EPA's Bill Wehrum coordinated with more than two dozen companies and umbrella groups of utilities to fight the Obama administration's regulations, POLITICO's Zack Colman and Alex Guillén report.

The twenty-five power companies and six industry trade groups agreed to pay the firm, then called Hunton & Williams, a total of \$8.2 million in 2017 alone, according to [an internal summary](#) prepared in June of that year — less than three months before Trump nominated Wehrum.

Known as the Utility Air Regulatory Group, the secretive organization included some of the largest coal-burning utilities in the country, including Duke Energy, Southern Co. and AEP, which together contributed nearly one-third of the money.

Nothing in federal ethics rules prevents Wehrum from working on regulations at EPA that apply to a broad sweep of actors in the industry he once represented, and he told POLITICO that he has stayed on the right side of the ethical line.

"From the beginning and from well before I joined EPA I thought it was very important to understand the ethical obligations that would apply to me," Wehrum said. "The ethical rules do not prevent me from working on regulations of general applicability," he added. [Read more.](#)

Join POLITICO Pro Canada's Alexander Panetta and Lauren Gardner for a breakfast discussion on the state of U.S.-Canada relations on Friday Feb. 22. The discussion will feature Canadian Premiers: the Honorable Doug Ford, Ontario; the Honorable Blaine Higgs, New Brunswick; the Honorable Scott Moe, Saskatchewan; and Honorable Bob McLeod, Northwest Territories. This event is hosted in partnership with Nelson Mullins and the Council of the Federation. Register for the event [here](#).

AROUND THE AGENCIES

COUNTING CARB: Talks between California and the Trump administration over auto emissions regulations have ended with no tangible progress, as EPA and the Transportation Department near

self-imposed March deadline to rewrite the joint state-federal fuel economy standards for passenger vehicles.

The Trump administration has decided to end the talks, Reuters [reports](#) — a sentiment California Air Resources Board Chairwoman Mary Nichols echoed to POLITICO.

Nichols said the talks had been moribund for some time, despite repeated meetings with federal officials over the past year, Pro California's Debra Kahn [reports](#). "They never started, so it's easy to end," Nichols said.

"The administration broke off communications before Christmas and never responded to our suggested areas of compromise — or offered any compromise proposal at all," CARB spokesman Stanley Young said in an email. "We concluded at that point that they were never serious about negotiating, and their public comments about California since then seem to underscore that point."

The end of the talks could factor into Wheeler's nomination for EPA administrator, Senate Environment and Public Works ranking member [Tom Carper](#) said Wednesday. "After Mr. Wheeler's emphatic insistence at his confirmation hearing that 'nobody wants a 50-state deal more than I do,' the end of these talks send a clear message that, sadly, Mr. Wheeler has been unable to keep his word," he said.

To the courts: EPA's move to finalize its rolled-back standards means it is almost certainly headed to court. Case in point: Environmental Defense Fund senior attorney Martha Roberts said Wednesday the group would "keep fighting, in the court of public opinion and the court of law, to protect our Clean Car Standards for all Americans."

RUNDOWN OF TODAY'S FERC MEETING: Today's post-lunch edition of the monthly FERC meeting could be a speedy one. There are four rulemakings and certificates for two small natural gas projects. One of the rulemakings seems likely to be a final rule on the agency's changes to regulations that raised the dollar-figure threshold for what triggers a FERC review of mergers and sales by public utilities.

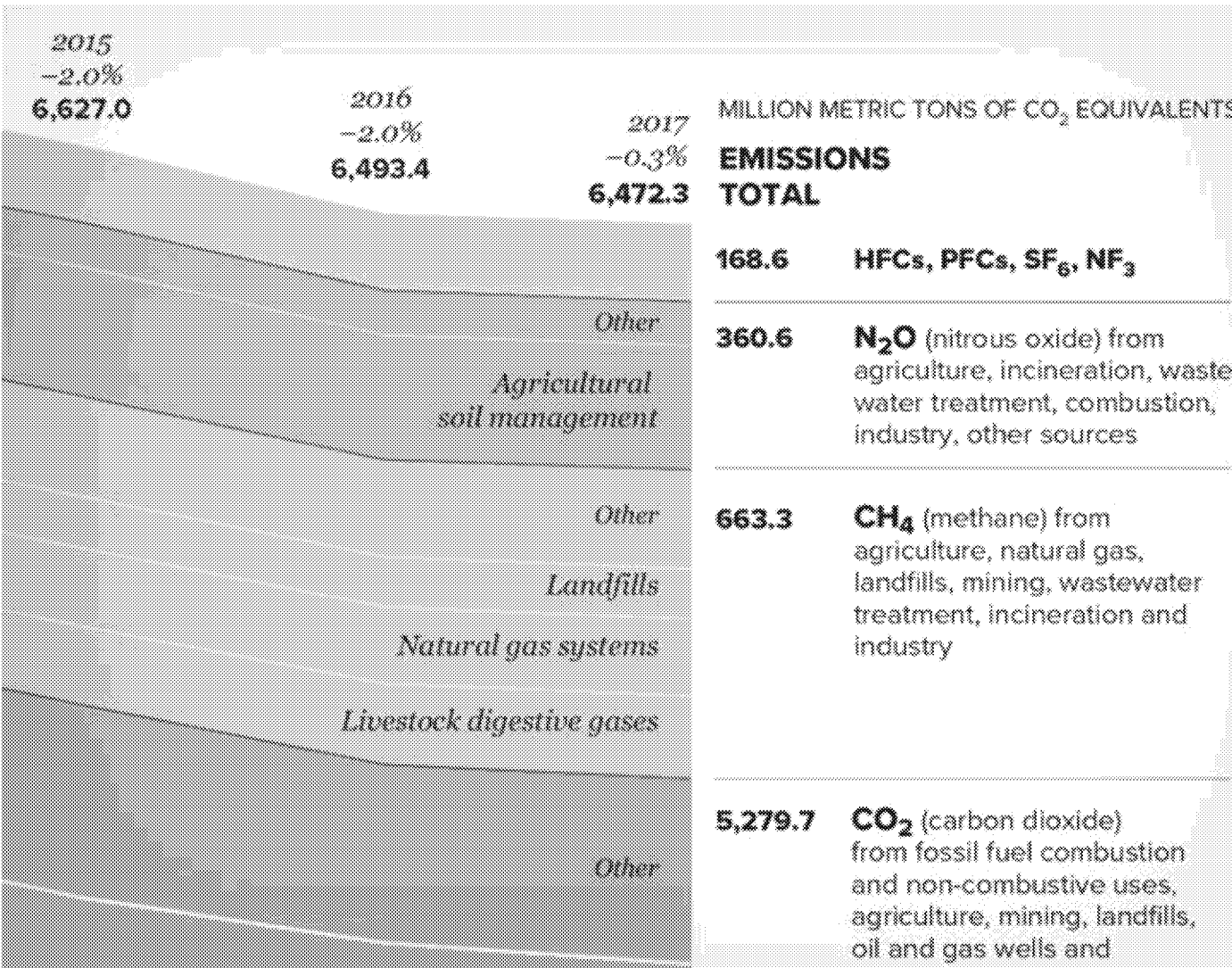
The process was kicked off last year when President Donald Trump signed [H.R. 1109](#) to amend the Federal Power Act in September. Another rulemaking appears to be a response to rehearing and clarification requests by industry on a FERC final rule last year where regulators instituted new interconnection procedures for generators producing more than 20 megawatts.

POTUS FILES: Acting Interior Secretary David Bernhardt is expected to have lunch with the president today at the White House.

DRAFT PEBBLE STUDY DRAWS GREENS' IRE: Greens pounced Wednesday on a [draft environmental impact statement](#) from the Army Corps of Engineers for the proposed Pebble Mine Alaska, calling out the agency for rushing its review, [Alex reports](#) for Pros.

FORMER EPA OFFICIAL LAUNCHES PUSH AGAINST GND: Mandy Gunasekara, the former EPA air office official who [left the agency](#) to start her own nonprofit to advocate on behalf of the Trump administration, has launched a push against the Green New Deal. Gunasekara [shared](#) a video Wednesday that compared the proposal to "Soviet takeovers of the economy," and links to a [petition](#) to "defeat" the Green New Deal.

EMISSIONS STATEMENT: New data released by EPA show U.S. carbon dioxide emissions from power plants increased by 0.6 percent in 2018 from 2017, while emissions of nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide extended their downtrends, [your ME host reports](#).



View the full DataPoint graphic [here](#). Want to add [DataPoint](#) to your Pro account? [Learn more](#).

See it: The slight increase in CO2 emissions follows a separate draft report [released](#) by EPA last week that found U.S. greenhouse gas emissions slid 0.3 percent between 2016 and 2017. Data from that report is broken down by Pro DataPoint's Patterson Clark [here](#).

ON THE HILL

USE IT OR LOSE IT: Senate EPW Chairman [John Barrasso](#) [scheduled](#) a hearing for next week on carbon capture technology. The hearing will examine the "USE IT" bill, [S. 383 \(116\)](#), as well as the state of technologies that reduce, capture and use carbon dioxide.

The bill was reintroduced earlier this month by Barrasso and would support carbon dioxide utilization and direct air capture research, as well as collaboration of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration facilities and carbon dioxide pipelines. The hearing is set for Feb. 27 at 10 a.m.

E&C TO HOLD JOBS HEARING: The House Energy and Commerce Energy Subcommittee will hold a [legislative hearing](#) Feb. 27 on investing in a diverse clean energy workforce and the "Blue Collar to Green Collar Jobs Development Act of 2019," which subcommittee Chairman [Bobby Rush](#) will introduce next week.

"As the energy sector changes to address climate change, it's critically important that we not only invest in clean energy infrastructure, but also a diverse workforce that can build it," Rush said in a statement announcing the hearing.

ANOTHER ONE: House Transportation Chairman [Peter DeFazio](#) announced [another hearing](#) for next week, which will examine the role the transportation sector plays in global warming and explore a "dual track approach of mitigation and resiliency."

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

— The National Wildlife Federation named **Mustafa Santiago Ali** as its vice president for environmental justice, climate and community revitalization. Ali recently was senior vice president for climate, environmental justice and community revitalization for the Hip Hop Caucus and was previously a senior adviser at the EPA, leading the Office of Environmental Justice.

THE GRID

— "Whitmer's new environmental order leaves 'polluter panels' in place — for now," [Detroit Free Press](#).

— "Denmark's Inger Andersen elected U.N. environment chief," [Associated Press](#).

- "Jay Inslee, potential 2020 contender, on climate: 'We need to blow the bugle,'" [The Guardian](#).
- "Trump agency proposes overhaul of biofuel credit trading," [Bloomberg](#).
- "Nazi sub is being destroyed by bacteria due to Deepwater Horizon spill," [New Scientist](#).

HAPPENING TODAY

9 a.m. — Duke in D.C. holds a [briefing](#) on "Venezuela in Crisis and the American Response," 122 Cannon.

9:30 a.m. — The Woodrow Wilson Center [forum](#) on "Will China Be First to Completely Abandon Combustion Engine Cars?" 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW.

9:30 a.m. — Center for Strategic & International Studies [discussion](#) on "Oil Market Update: Search for Stability," 1616 Rhode Island Ave. NW.

4 p.m. — The USAID Adaptation, Thought Leadership And Assessments Project holds an [Adaptation Community Meeting](#) on "Supporting Planning and Financing for Climate Adaptation," 1717 H St. NW.

6:30 p.m. — Physicians for Social Responsibility [discussion](#) on aspects of the Green New Deal, 2020 14th St. NW.

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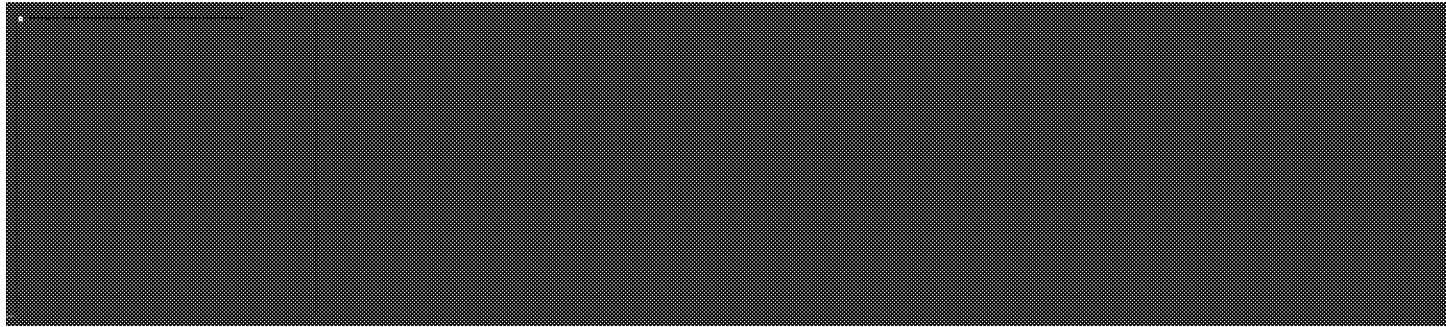
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Message

From: Woods, Clint [woods.clint@epa.gov]
Sent: 6/19/2019 7:21:32 PM
To: Wehrum, Bill [Wehrum.Bill@epa.gov]; Idsal, Anne [idsal.anne@epa.gov]; Harlow, David [harlow.david@epa.gov]; Dominguez, Alexander [dominguez.alexander@epa.gov]; Schwab, Justin [Schwab.Justin@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: The Energy 202: This former EPA appointee wants to make climate change a winning issue for Trump

Begin forwarded message:

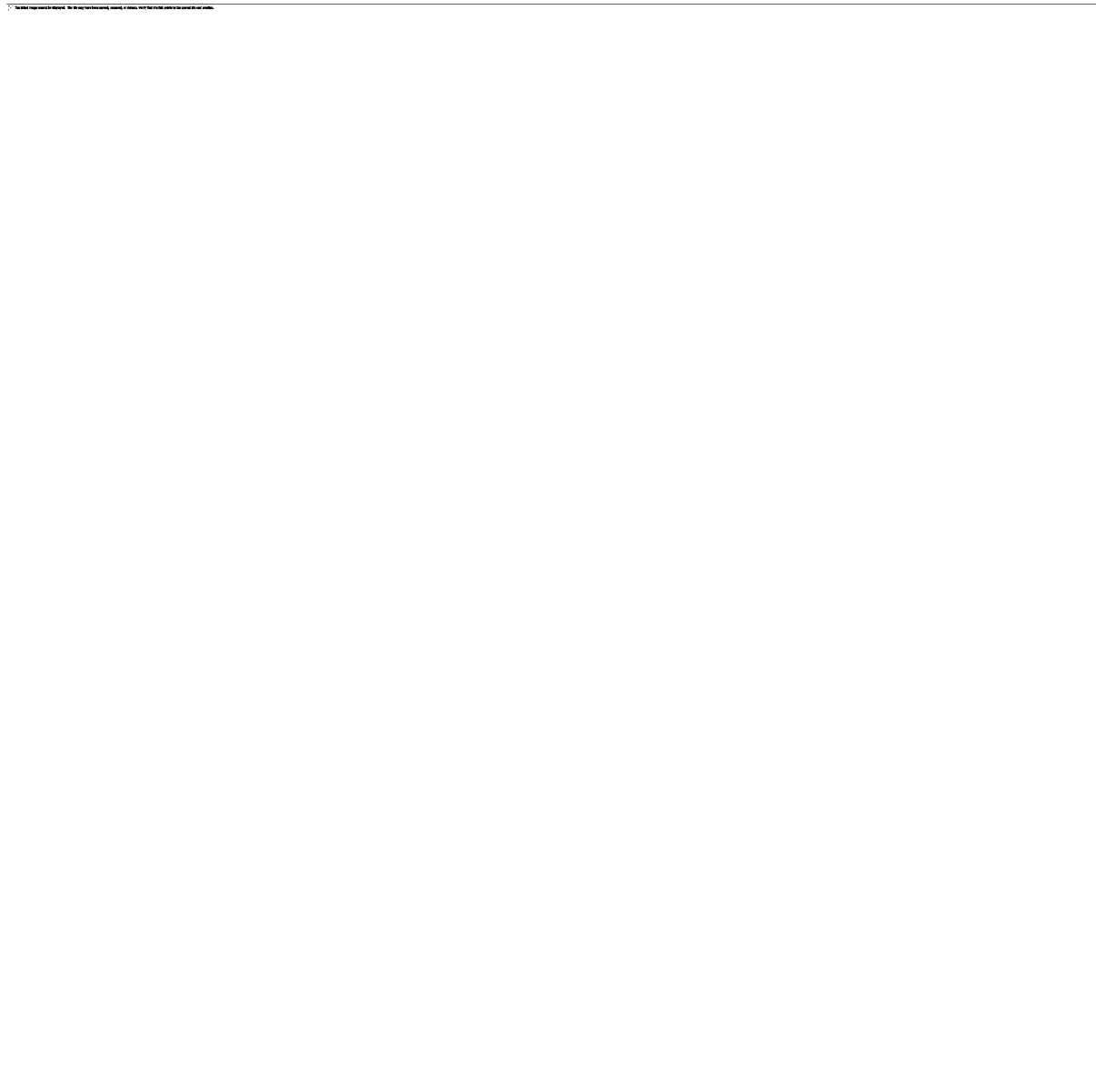
From: The Washington Post <email@washingtonpost.com>
Date: June 19, 2019 at 8:11:31 AM EDT
To: woods.clinton@epa.gov
Subject: The Energy 202: This former EPA appointee wants to make climate change a winning issue for Trump
Reply-To: The Washington Post <email@washingtonpost.com>



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This former EPA appointee wants to make climate change a win issue for Trump



BY DINO GRANDONI
with Paulina Firozi

THE LIGHTBULB



Mandy Gunasekara. (Courtesy of Mandy Gunasekara.)

Democratic contenders for president are trying to make climate change a top electoral issue. But one Trump appointee who recently left the Environmental Protection Agency wants to make sure it is a winning issue for her former boss instead.

Since leaving the EPA in February, Mandy Gunasekara formed what she calls a “pro-Trump nonprofit” called Energy 45 to help promote Trump’s energy agenda. She’s been busy writing op-eds for newspapers such as USA Today and appearing on television networks such as Fox News to be a counterweight to the chorus of critics bemoaning Trump administration efforts to dismantle its predecessor’s climate agenda.

“I think what Republicans are starting to understand is, we need to be better about communicating the good work that we’re doing,” Gunasekara, the former deputy assistant administrator of the EPA’s air office, said in an interview Tuesday.

“I always say, we’re right on the policy, we’re right on the facts,” she added. “But what we’re not great at is conveying that.”

As Trump formally launched his reelection bid last night, he himself leaned into his energy record and touted the country’s position as the world’s No. 1 petroleum and natural gas producer during a rally in Orlando.

“We’ve ended the last administration’s cruel, and heartless war on American energy,” he told the crowd of supporters. “What they were doing to our energy should never be forgotten.”

Gunasekara is hardly the first Trump figure to leverage her time in government into media appearances. But few have been talking specifically about energy and environmental policy.

Now she and other Trump fans are gearing up to defend what is perhaps the EPA's biggest new policy change yet: an overhaul of the Obama administration's signature climate regulation for coal-fired power plants.

Gunasekara's former boss, EPA chief Andrew Wheeler, is expected to finalize on Wednesday a rule empowering states to establish their own emission standards for electric generation.

The plan is projected to cut CO2 emissions roughly 34 percent below 2005 levels over the next decade-and-a-half, a pace that is likely slower than what the industry is already doing in the absence of any federal regulation.

But Gunasekara already has her talking points ready: She cites data from the International Energy Agency that indicates the United States has seen some of the largest decreases in overall greenhouse gas emissions, driven in large part by cheaper natural gas replacing coal in power generation rather than regulations.

The Obama administration, she said, "co-opted important agency missions as a means to expand the federal government."

Still, the United States is still reducing emissions too slowly to help stave off some of the worst effects of climate change as described in a recent landmark United Nations report.

And Gunasekara is, unsurprisingly, also no fan for climate plans put forward by former vice president Joe Biden and other Democratic White House hopefuls, which she calls "different iterations of the Green New Deal."

"The Green New Deal is premised more on socialism than anything you would find historically within the governing approach of America," she said.

Gunasekara, who was also a former senior adviser to then-EPA chief Scott Pruitt and helped run the air and radiation office, was one of the architects of Trump's decision

withdraw from the 2015 Paris climate agreement, under which nearly every nation agreed to voluntarily cut heat-trapping emissions.

But she is perhaps best known for handing a snowball to another former boss, Sen. James M. Inhofe (R-Okla.), to prove that climate change had not ended winters. At the time, in 2015, she was working as counsel on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

For the moment, she is the boss of her own “one-woman show,” she said, splitting her time between Washington and Mississippi. Energy 45 is organized as a 501(c) (4), which is not required to disclose its donors.

“It’s not atypical to have a very small operation for this type of organization,” said Anna Massoglia, a researcher at the Center for Responsive Politics, which tracks the movement of “dark money.”

Gunasekara declined to specify the contributors. “I would just define my support is coming from folks who align with the mission of the agency,” she said.

Her anonymous funding sources give critics fodder to attack her message.

“There are any number of polluter-backed groups in D.C. already trying to prop up Trump's anti-public health agenda, so it's hard to imagine what Pruitt's associates are having the conversation other than a desperate desire to benefit themselves no matter who gets hurt,” said Adam Beitman, a spokesman for the Sierra Club.

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POWER PLAYS



President Trump speaks following a tour of an ethanol plant in Council Bluffs, Iowa. (Mandel Ngan / AFP)

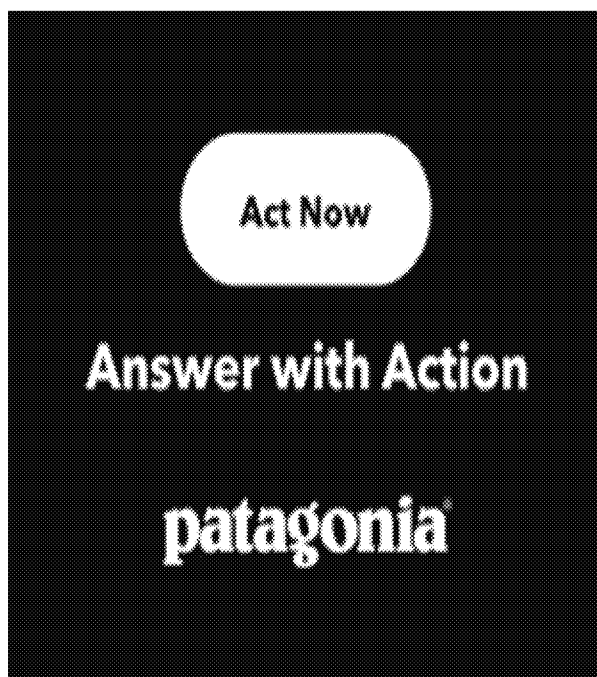
— **Corn wars:** The Trump administration is weighing whether to make more changes to federal ethanol rules, such as limiting waivers for small oil refiners to get an exemption from fuel blending requirements, the Wall Street Journal reports. Although people familiar with the matter say no decisions have been made, the move to consider further changes follows

president's latest trip to Iowa, the nation's largest ethanol-producing state. The president's move to end the summer ethanol ban "has failed to fully satisfy farmers in Iowa and elsewhere who are hoping to sell more corn for ethanol to make up for sales lost to China amid the administration's continued trade standoff," the WSJ reports.



An oil tanker is on fire in the Gulf of Oman. (AP Photo/ISNA)

— **Trump’s assessment of the alleged Iran attacks on oil tankers:** In an interview with Time magazine, Trump characterized the pair of attacks on petrochemical tankers that his administration has blamed on Iran as “very minor.” “Trump’s assessment in Time magazine reflected a softer posture than that of senior administration officials at the Pentagon and State Department, as well as some congressional Republicans, as tensions between the United States and Iran have flared recently,” The Post’s John Wagner and Paul Sonnichsen report.



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Water saturates a field of corn plants in Churdan, Iowa. (Daniel Acker/Bloomberg News)

— **Farmers' lingering weather woes:** Many American farmers are reaching a point of exhaustion as they wait for a return in the planting season. After a stretch from May 2018 to April 2019 that was the wettest year on record in the contiguous United States, saturated grounds have meant farmers have been weighing whether to plant for weeks, The Post's Laura Reiley reports.

The Agriculture Department reported this week that domestic plantings were at the slowest pace in more than four decades at 92 percent of the total intended acreage.



Women walk during a heat wave in Tokyo. (Kyodo News/Getty Images)

— **Man, it's a hot one:** Last month was the fourth-warmest May in the 140 years of global temperature data collected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

land and ocean surface temperatures during the month were 1.53 degrees Fahrenheit above the 20th century average, according to the agency. All of the five warmest Mays on record were in the past few years, starting in 2015. At 1.67 degrees Fahrenheit above the average, May 2016 clocked in at the warmest for that month.

Meanwhile: The World Meteorological Organization announced that two temperature readings — a 129-degrees reading in Mitribah, Kuwait, on July 21, 2016, and a 128.7 degrees reading in Turbat, Pakistan, on May 28, 2017 — have been determined to be among the hottest recorded on the planet. “These are the highest recognized temperatures in 76 years,” The Post’s Ian Livingston reports.

— Boaty McBoatface makes a climate discovery: On its first mission, the unmanned British research submarine called Boaty McBoatface — named in a 2016 online poll — discovered a relationship between Antarctic winds and rising sea temperatures. “Its findings, published in the journal PNAS on Monday, revealed how increasingly strong winds in the region are causing turbulence deep within the sea, and as a result mixing warm water from middle levels with colder water in the abyss,” CNN reports. “That process is causing the temperature to rise, which in turn is a significant contributor to rising sea levels, scientists behind the project said.”

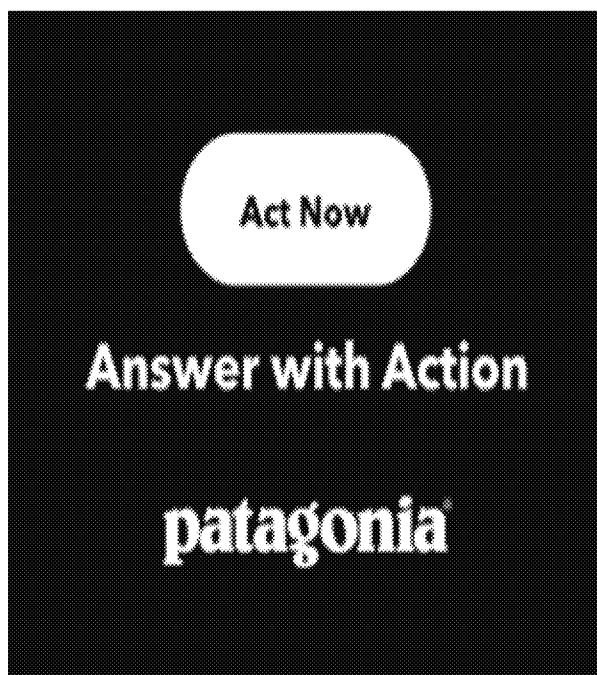
OIL CHECK



Effigy of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in British Columbia. (Darryl Dyck/Canadian Press/AP)

— **Canada to move forward with controversial pipeline:** One day after the govern Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau declared a national “climate emergency,” it announced it will move forward with the controversial Trans Mountain pipeline project \$5.5 billion expansion “has long pitted the country's energy sector against the concern

environmental and some indigenous groups,” The Post’s Emily Rauhala reports. “The will be welcomed by the country’s struggling oil sector and the many Canadians whose fortunes are tied to it. Landlocked Alberta produces four-fifths of Canadian crude, but struggles to get it abroad, leading to steep discounts against global benchmarks — and hitting the province hard,” she adds. “But many Canadians — including environmental and some indigenous communities — have protested the long-stalled pipeline out of for oil spills and the continuing promotion of climate-changing fossil fuels.”



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DAYBOOK

Today

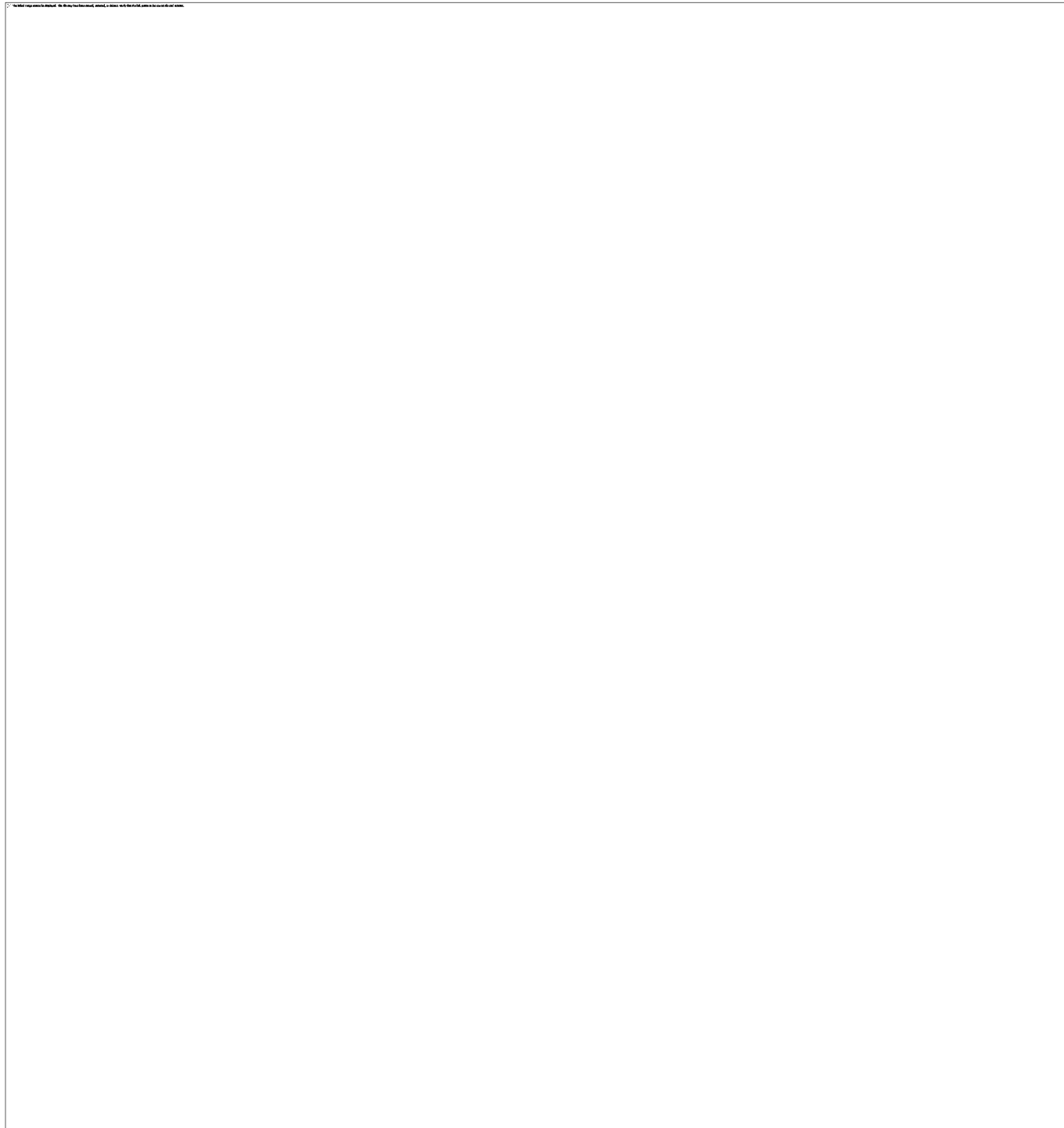
- The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks held a legislative hearing.

- The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy holds a hearing on "Legislative Solutions to Make Our Nation's Pipelines Safer."
- The House Science Subcommittee on Energy holds a hearing on fossil energy research.

Coming Up

- The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee holds a hearing on geothermal energy development on Thursday.
- The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittees on Consumer Protection and Commerce and Environment and Climate Change hold a hearing on the "Administration's Rollback of Fuel Economy and Clean Car Standards" on Thursday.
- The Brookings Institution holds an event on carbon price proposals with Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del.) and Rep. Francis Rooney (R-Fla.) on Thursday.
- The House Science Committee holds a hearing on oversight of the Energy Department's research and development with Energy Secretary Rick Perry on January 25.

EXTRA MILEAGE



Prosecutors say Francis Gurahoo admitted to attempting to smuggle 34 Guyanese finches, storing them in hair curlers. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

— A man packing 34 hair rollers walks into an airport . . . A 39-year-old man attempted to smuggle nearly three dozen colorful finches from Guyana through John F. Kennedy International Airport, in plastic hair rollers stashed in a duffel bag. And he said he planned to sell them for about \$3,000 each. “If they make it through the checkpoint, these birds are

pitted against one another in singing contests at public parks in Brooklyn and Queens
a judge determines which has the “best voice, ” The Post’s Michael Brice-Saddler rep
“Sometimes, it’s a race to see which finch can sing the most songs.”

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Democracy Dies in Darkness

Message

From: Joseph Bast [JBast@heartland.org]
Sent: 3/19/2019 5:06:25 PM
Subject: Joint letter to President Trump in support of the Presidential Committee on Climate Security
Attachments: Joint letter to President Trump in support of proposed President's Commission on Climate Security, 18-3-2019.pdf

This letter has been given to President Trump's staff in hopes it will encourage the President to do the right thing and for his staff to give him all the support they can. If you have any questions, contact Myron Ebell, director of the Center for Energy and Environment at the Competitive Enterprise Institute, Myron.Ebell@cei.org.

Joe

Joseph Bast
Director and Senior Fellow
The Heartland Institute
3939 N. Wilke Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Cellphone [312/208-8989](tel:3122088989)
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Washington, DC
18th March 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, DC 20500
Via e-mail

Dear President Trump,

The undersigned organizations and individuals write to express our strong support for the proposed President's Commission on Climate Security. It is our understanding that this commission, which is being planned and would be directed by Dr. William Happer of the National Security Council staff, is currently being considered by your senior White House staff and relevant Cabinet secretaries and agency heads. The commission would consist of a small number of distinguished experts on climate-related science and national security. It would be charged with conducting an independent, high-level review of the Fourth National Climate Assessment and other official reports relating to climate and its implications for national security. Its deliberations would be subject to the transparency requirements of the Federal Advisory Committees Act.

In our view, an independent review of these reports is long overdue. Serious problems and shortcomings have been raised repeatedly in the past by highly-qualified scientists only to be ignored or dismissed by the federal agencies in charge of producing the reports. Among major issues that have been raised and that we hope the commission will scrutinize: the models used have assumed climate sensitivities to CO₂ concentrations significantly higher than recent research warrants; the models used have predicted much more warming than has actually occurred; predictions of the negative impacts of global warming have been made based on implausible high-end emissions scenarios; the positive impacts of warming have been ignored or minimized; and surface temperature data sets have been manipulated to show more rapid warming than has actually occurred. An underlying issue that we hope the commission will also address is the fact that so many of the scientific claims made in these reports and by many climate scientists are not falsifiable, that is, they cannot be tested by the scientific method.

The conclusions and predictions made by these reports are the basis for proposed energy policies that could cost trillions of dollars in less than a decade and tens of trillions of dollars over several decades. Given the magnitude of the potential costs involved, we think that taking the insular processes of official, consensus science on

trust, as has been the case for the past three decades, is negligent and imprudent. In contrast, major engineering projects are regularly subjected to the most rigorous and exhaustive adversarial review. We suggest that climate science requires at least the same level of scrutiny as the engineering employed in building a bridge or a new airplane.

We note that defenders of the climate consensus have already mounted a public campaign against the proposed commission. We find this opposition curious. If the defenders are confident that the science contained in official reports is robust, then they should welcome a review that would finally put to rest the doubts that have been raised. On the other hand, their opposition could be taken as evidence that the scientific basis of the climate consensus is in fact highly suspect and cannot withstand critical review.

We further note that opponents of the proposed commission have already stooped to making personal attacks on Dr. Happer. Many signers of this letter know Dr. Happer personally and all are familiar with his scientific career. We know him to be a man of high capabilities, high achievements, and the highest integrity.

It has been reported that some officials within your administration have proposed an internal working group as an alternative to an independent commission subject to FACA. Insofar as an internal working group would consist of federal career scientists reviewing their own work, we think this alternative would be worse than doing nothing.

Although an independent commission of distinguished scientists would have high credibility, we do not mean to imply that its report should be the end of the matter. We therefore suggest that the National Academies of Science and Engineering would be appropriate bodies to conduct an initial review of the commission's report.

Mr. President, you have made a number of comments in recent years expressing doubts about the global warming consensus. Many of the signers of this letter have been similarly skeptical. Without prejudging the results, we think that a review of climate science produced by an independent, high-level commission would be a fair test for your views (and ours): either it would provide a sound basis for revising your views or it would confirm your views and confound your critics.

For these reasons, we urge you to create by Executive Order a President's Commission on Climate Security. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,



COMPETITIVE
ENTERPRISE
INSTITUTE

Myron Ebell, Director, Center for Energy and
Environment
and Marlo Lewis, Senior Fellow
Competitive Enterprise Institute



Tim Huelskamp, Ph. D., President and CEO
and Joseph L. Bast, Founder and Senior Fellow
The Heartland Institute



Adam Brandon, President
FreedomWorks



Tim Chapman, Executive Director
Heritage Action for America



Thomas Pyle
President
American Energy Alliance



Thomas Schatz, President
Citizens Against Government Waste



Craig Rucker, President
and Marc Morano, Publisher, CFACT's Climate Depot
Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT)



Steve Milloy, Publisher
Junk Science



James L. Martin, Founder and Chairman
and Saulius "Saul" Anuzis, President
60 Plus Association



Dr. Thomas P. Sheahen, Chairman
and Kenneth Haapala, President
Science and Environmental Policy Project



Robert L. Bradley, Jr., CEO
Institute for Energy Research



Craig D. Idso, Ph. D., Chairman
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Change



Tom Harris, Executive Director
International Climate Science Coalition



Eunie Smith, President
Eagle Forum



Rick Manning, President
Americans for Limited Government



Craig Richardson, President
Energy and Environment Legal Institute



E. Calvin Beisner, Ph. D., Founder and National
Spokesman
Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation



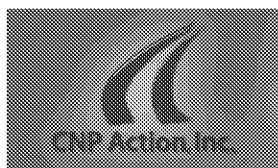
Phil Kerpen, President
American Commitment



Mario H. Lopez, President
Hispanic Leadership Fund



Al Regnery, Chairman
Conservative Action Project



Bill Walton, Chairman
CNP Action, Inc.



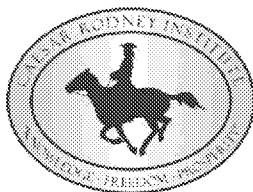
Jennifer Fielder, CEO
American Lands Council



Tom DeWeese, President
American Policy Center



Andrew Langer, President
Institute for Liberty



David T. Stevenson, Policy Director
and Clinton S. Laird, Advisory Council
Caesar Rodney Institute



Rob Roper, President
Ethan Allen Institute



Kory Swanson, President and CEO
John Locke Foundation



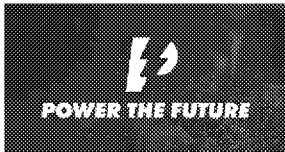
Paul Gessing, President
Rio Grande Foundation



Jason Hayes, Director of Environmental Policy
The Mackinac Center for Public Policy



Kathleen Hartnett White, Senior Fellow and Director,
Armstrong Center for Energy and the Environment
Life: Powered, a Project of the Texas Public Policy
Foundation



Daniel Turner, Founder and Executive Director
Power the Future



John Droz, Jr., Founder
Alliance for Wise Energy Decisions



Alex Epstein, Founder
Center for Industrial Progress



Mark Mathis, President
Clear Energy Alliance



Mandy Gunasekara, Founder
Energy 45 Fund



Peter Ferrara, Chief Consultant
and David Wallace, President and Founder
FAIR Energy Foundation



Mark Anderson, Executive Director
and Karla Davenport, Producer
I Spy Radio

Affiliations of the individuals listed alphabetically below are given for identification purposes only. Academic affiliations have been placed in parentheses to make this doubly clear.

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Charles R. Anderson, Ph. D., President and Principal Scientist, Anderson Materials Evaluation

Dennis T. Avery, Co-author (with S. Fred Singer) of *Unstoppable Global Warming: Every 1,500 Years*

Timothy Ball, Ph. D., Author of *Human Caused Global Warming*

Joe Bastardi, Chief Meteorologist, Weatherbell.com, Author of *The Climate Chronicles*

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Mark J. Block, CEO, Mother Nature's Trading Company

Karl Bohnak, Chief Meteorologist, WLUC, Marquette, Mich.

Vice Admiral Edward S. Briggs, U. S. Navy (ret.)

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Madhav Khandekar, Ph. D., Scientist (ret.), Environment Canada

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Hans U. Kurr, Simultaneous Interpreter (ret.), United Nations

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James M. Peacock, Aerospace Engineer (ret.) for Apollo, Sky Lab, and Space Shuttle Programs, NASA, U. S. Air Force Research and Development

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Ted Stout, D. C.

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Cecil Joe Tomlinson, Senior Principal Engineer (ret.), Boeing Company

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Phil Volker, President, ERF/WMG Companies, Inc.

Lance Wallace, Ph. D. (Astrophysics), EPA Office of Research and Development (ret.)

Anthony Watts, Meteorologist and Publisher, Watts Up With That?

Steven Weismantel, Connecticut Climate Realists

Chuck F. Wiese, Meteorologist, Weatherwise, Inc.

Adam Wildavsky, S. B. (MIT), Senior Software Engineer (ret.), Google

David Wojick, Ph. D.

George T. Wolff, Ph. D., Principal Scientist, Air Improvement Resources, Inc.

Thomas H. Wismuller, Meteorologist, NASA (ret.), Founding Member of the Right Climate Stuff Team

Benjamin Zycher, Ph. D., Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute

Message

From: Lewis, Josh [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B22D1D3BB3F84436A524F76AB6C79D7E-JOLEWIS]
Sent: 2/7/2019 3:35:17 PM
To: Monroe, Scott [Monroe.Scott@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Top EPA air adviser departs

Begin forwarded message:

From: "POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard" <politicoemail@politicopro.com>
Date: February 7, 2019 at 10:32:52 AM EST
To: <lewis.josh@epa.gov>
Subject: Top EPA air adviser departs
Reply-To: "POLITICO subscriptions" <reply-fe9113797563077975-1158573_HTML-639923762-1376319-0@politicoemail.com>

By Zack Colman

02/07/2019 10:31 AM EDT

A top official in the EPA's air office is leaving the agency at noon today to start her own nonprofit organization to advocate on behalf of the Trump administration.

Mandy Gunasekara, senior policy adviser and principal deputy assistant administrator in EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, confirmed her departure in a text. She had been with the EPA since November 2017. Her new 501c(4) group's focus will be "to defend the president and our many energy, environment and economic successes," Gunasekara said.

Prior to EPA, Gunasekara served as majority counsel for the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, which was led first by Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) and then by Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyo). She's also held various other Capitol Hill positions.

To view online:

<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/energy/whiteboard/2019/02/top-epa-air-adviser-departs-2645790>

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Message

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Sent: 8/2/2019 1:53:52 PM
To: Idsal, Anne [idsal.anne@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: article in E&E

Begin forwarded message:

From: "DeLuca, Isabel" <DeLuca.Isabel@epa.gov>
Date: August 2, 2019 at 7:18:13 AM EDT
To: "Dominguez, Alexander" <dominguez.alexander@epa.gov>, "Woods, Clint" <woods.clint@epa.gov>, "Grantham, Nancy" <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>, "Drinkard, Andrea" <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>
Cc: "Millett, John" <Millett.John@epa.gov>
Subject: article in E&E

FYI – see below. I believe Chemnick contacted Sarah D. directly about this earlier in the week and she did not respond.

<https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2019/08/02/stories/1060826563>

Career staff fueled blitz on climate models — ex-official

Jean Chemnick, E&E News reporter Published: Friday, August 2, 2019

The Trump administration's line of attack against the National Climate Assessment came from EPA career staffers who worried that the alarming report would undermine their modeling work, a former senior political official told E&E News.

Mandy Gunasekara, who was EPA's deputy air chief until her February departure, said technical staff in EPA's Office of Atmospheric Programs raised concerns about the use of higher-end assumptions in the report during weekly meetings with herself and then-Assistant Administrator Bill Wehrum.

Then-OAP Director Sarah Dunham and her team worried, Gunasekara said, that the report's findings from one modeling scenario could become its overall narrative.

The NCA is produced by 13 federal agencies. Last year's report warned of widespread impacts should climate change continue unchecked.

"I think there's a general frustration internal to the technical team at EPA when people focus on scenarios that are pretty far removed from reality," said Gunasekara, who is now president of the Energy 45 Fund, which supports President Trump's policies on energy and the environment. "For the people who are truly committed to figuring out 'what are the outcomes going to look like' and who want to educate people based on better understanding and not ginning up political rhetoric ... they do not like the focus on these extreme scenarios."

Gunasekara said she relayed those doubts to EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler in briefings ahead of the report's Black Friday release. He hasn't stopped referring to them since.

In interviews, public appearances and press calls as recently as last month, Wheeler has parried questions about the NCA's dire warnings about climate risk — which contrast sharply to Trump administration views — by calling them the product of "extreme scenarios."

He's charged that the Obama administration cherry-picked scenarios and blamed the press for reporting the report's most dramatic findings (*Climatewire*, June 10).

He even used a meeting with Group of Seven environment ministers in May in Metz, France, to lodge a protest. He added language to the meeting's joint statement pledging the United States "to re-examine comprehensive modelling that best reflects the actual state of climate science in order to inform its policy-making decisions."

Three months later, the Trump administration hasn't explained how this reexamination would occur. While Wheeler continues to make public statements, EPA hasn't taken an official position on the "extreme scenario" — known in climate modeling circles as Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5, or RCP 8.5. Nor has it said whether the scenario will be used in future editions of the NCA. Gunasekara said she wasn't aware of any specific plans.

The U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has used the scenario for more than a decade to chart outcomes from relatively high levels of fossil fuels consumption leading to warming of nearly 9 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100. It also assumes low levels of economic growth and technological advancement.

It's the high end of a range of four scenarios used in the NCA and supports some its most startling findings (*Climatewire*, Nov. 26, 2018).

But climate scientists say it's not unrealistic. The scenario assumes the world will use 20% less fossil fuels by the end of the century. A [report](#) last year by University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and Yale University researchers published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* estimated there was a 35% chance that RCP 8.5 would prove overly optimistic.

Katharine Hayhoe, an atmospheric scientist at Texas Tech University and lead author of last year's NCA chapter on energy supply, delivery and demand, pointed to the section's "very high confidence" finding that global emissions over the past 15 to 20 years have been consistent with the "higher scenarios."

"The only thing that will move us off an RCP8.5 pathway is sustained investment and/or policies that will accelerate the transition from fossil fuels to clean sources of energy and encourage solutions like reforestation and regenerative agriculture that restore carbon to the soil and biosphere," she said in an email.

EPA did not respond to E&E News' requests to interview Dunham or other OAP personnel.

Gunasekara said that in response to "probing questions" from herself and Wehrum last year, technical staff under Dunham said the IPCC was reviewing whether to use RCP 8.5 in its own future work.

"It's a conversation that's percolating among the scientists domestically and internationally in terms of what's the best scenarios for assessing future climate outcomes," she said, declining to offer names. Wheeler has made similar statements about the IPCC, also without providing a citation.

Gunasekara also suggested that future editions of the NCA might use new models that are tailored to reflect U.S.-only climate outcomes.

'You need to be in this meeting'

Wheeler has made "extreme scenarios" a regular part of his stump speech for nine months now. His predecessor, Scott Pruitt, was also briefed on the utility of tweaking models to produce milder climate projections.

When Oren Cass, a senior fellow at the right-leaning Manhattan Institute, met with Gunasekara and three other top EPA political officials in July 2017, climate models and economic analysis appear to have been on the agenda. In an email setting up the meeting, Adam White, a research fellow at the Hoover Institution, told Pruitt's policy chief, Samantha Dravis, and chief of staff, Ryan Jackson, that Cass wanted to offer advice as Pruitt set up his "red team, blue team" review of government science reports.

"Specifically, he wants to urge you that one of the most valuable things you could do is to study the 'baselines' that are being used to forecast potential emissions trajectories; this is a huge shortcoming of current science and is being badly mischaracterized/misused," said White in emails released under a Freedom of Information Act request by the Center for Biological Diversity. "An EPA analysis of it would be hugely valuable."

Cass and White got a warm welcome at EPA.

"Both of you need to be in this meeting," said Dravis in an email to policy official Brittany Bolen and Gunasekara, who responded that she'd met Cass when he testified before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee at the invitation of her former boss, Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.).

Gunasekara and White, who also attended the July meeting, said Cass touched on climate modeling but focused more on flaws he sees in economic modeling related to climate change. Cass and the Manhattan Institute dispute that they reject mainstream climate science.

Cass later met with then-White House energy adviser Mike Catanzaro, telling him in a heavily redacted email that "given the administration's interest in reviewing/revisiting issues in climate science, I had a few thoughts."

While the "red team, blue team" effort collapsed in late 2017, Cass personally met with Pruitt in early 2018 to brief him. Cass declined to be interviewed for this story.

In written testimony from the November 2015 Senate EPW hearing, Cass dismissed a suggestion that warming could reach 4.5 degrees Celsius by 2100 under a business-as-usual scenario. He quoted a 2014 IPCC working group report to support his point.

"The RCP 8.5 pathway has higher emissions than all but a few published baseline scenarios," states the "Mitigation of Climate Change" report.

But a few lines above Cass' quote, the same report states: "Although most baseline scenarios project a deceleration in emissions growth, especially compared with the rapid rate observed in the past decade, none is consistent in the long run with the pathways in the two most stringent RCP scenarios (2.6 and 4.5), with the majority falling between the 6.0 and 8.5 pathways."

The first two scenarios — which assume a speedy decarbonization aided by technological advancements and economic growth — appear in the NCA. In fact, last year's edition used 4.5 to 8.5 as its central range.

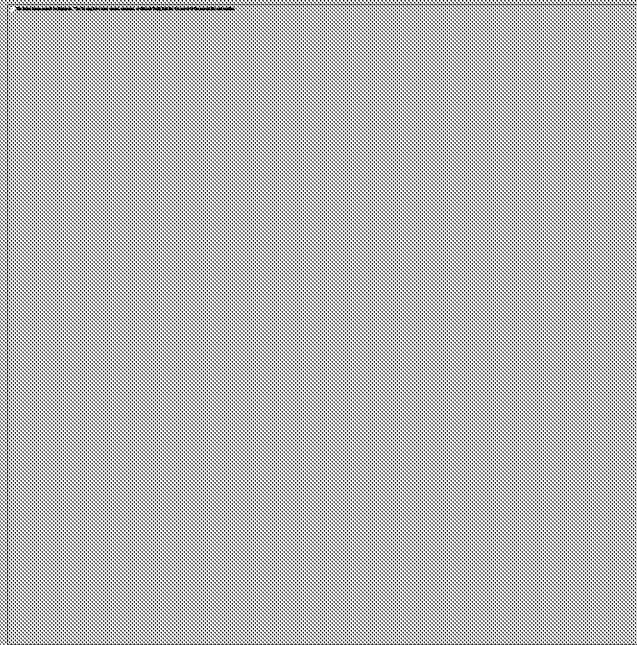
The moderate RCP 6.0 scenario equates to 3 to 4 C of warming by 2100. RCP 8.5 means 5 C. In other words, the U.N. climate body says the temperature warming scenario Cass dismissed encompasses most baseline scenarios.

Isabel DeLuca
Office of Air and Radiation, US EPA
(202) 343-9247

Message

From: American Energy Alliance [info@americanenergyalliance.org]
Sent: 8/9/2019 2:30:53 PM
To: Woods, Clint [woods.clint@epa.gov]
Subject: Eh hh

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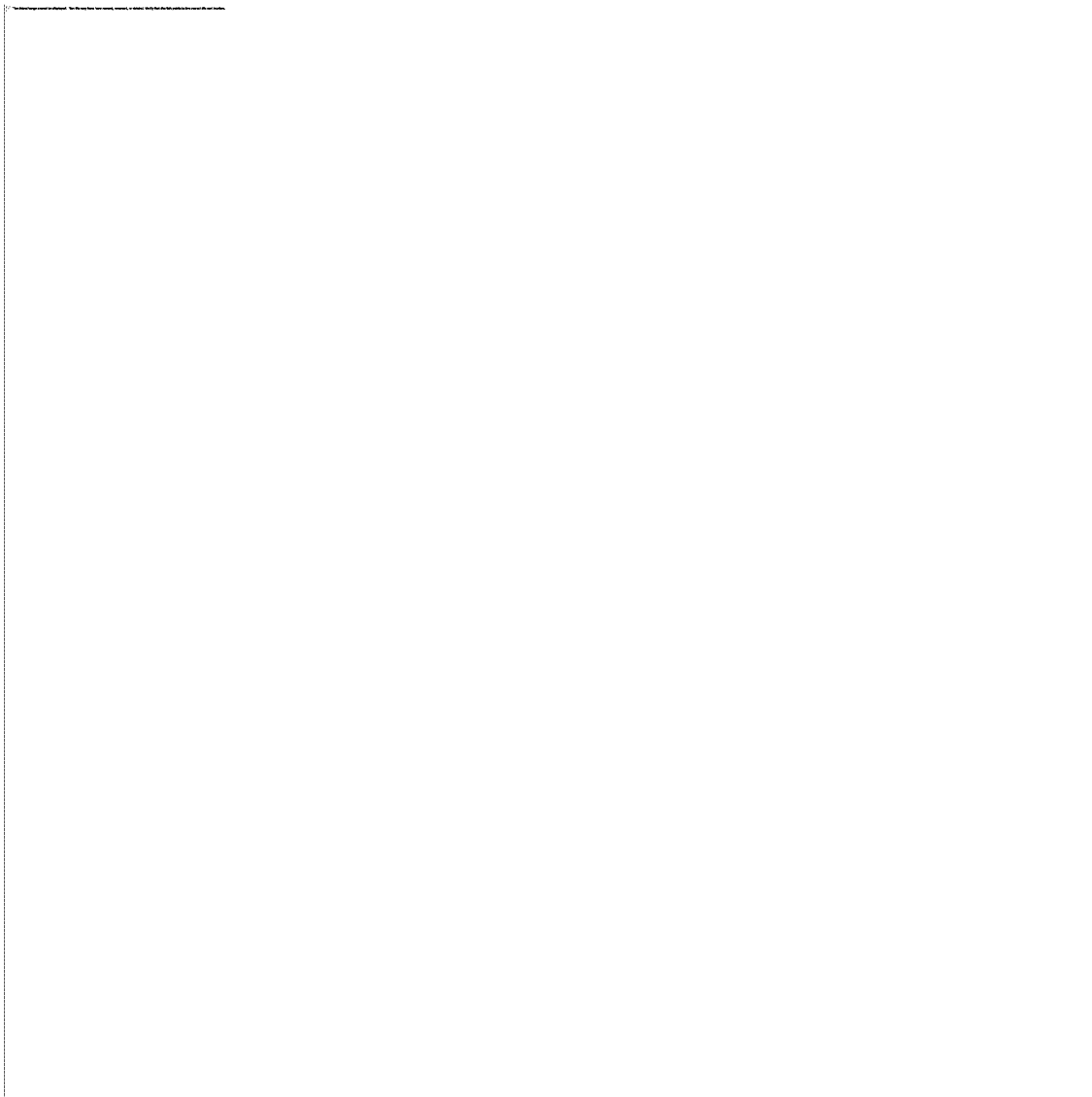


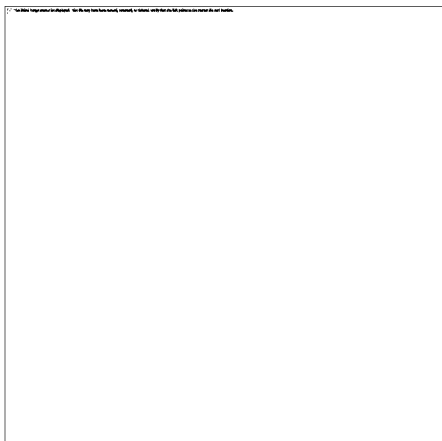
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Cowboys and Indians

Daily Caller (8/8/19) reports: "Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren appeared to dismiss an Iowa farmer's fears that the Green New Deal might destroy what he considers the backbone of the American agricultural system. The Massachusetts Democrat took a moment from her presidential campaign Thursday to discuss the plight of Iowa's farmlands with a man who came prepared to tell her why he believes the progressive climate plan could negatively affect the country's bovine. 'The Green New Deal says we need to get rid of cows. I don't agree with that,' the man told Warren before explaining that cows cut down on grass regrowth, which he argued sequesters more carbon. She gave a single word reply: 'Ehhh.'"





"Regardless of the urgency, or lack thereof, of the climate issue, the Green New Deal is not something America can remotely afford to implement. Such an unserious proposal leads one to surmise its authors and proponents do not take climate change seriously either."

– Kent Lassman,

Competitive Enterprise Institute

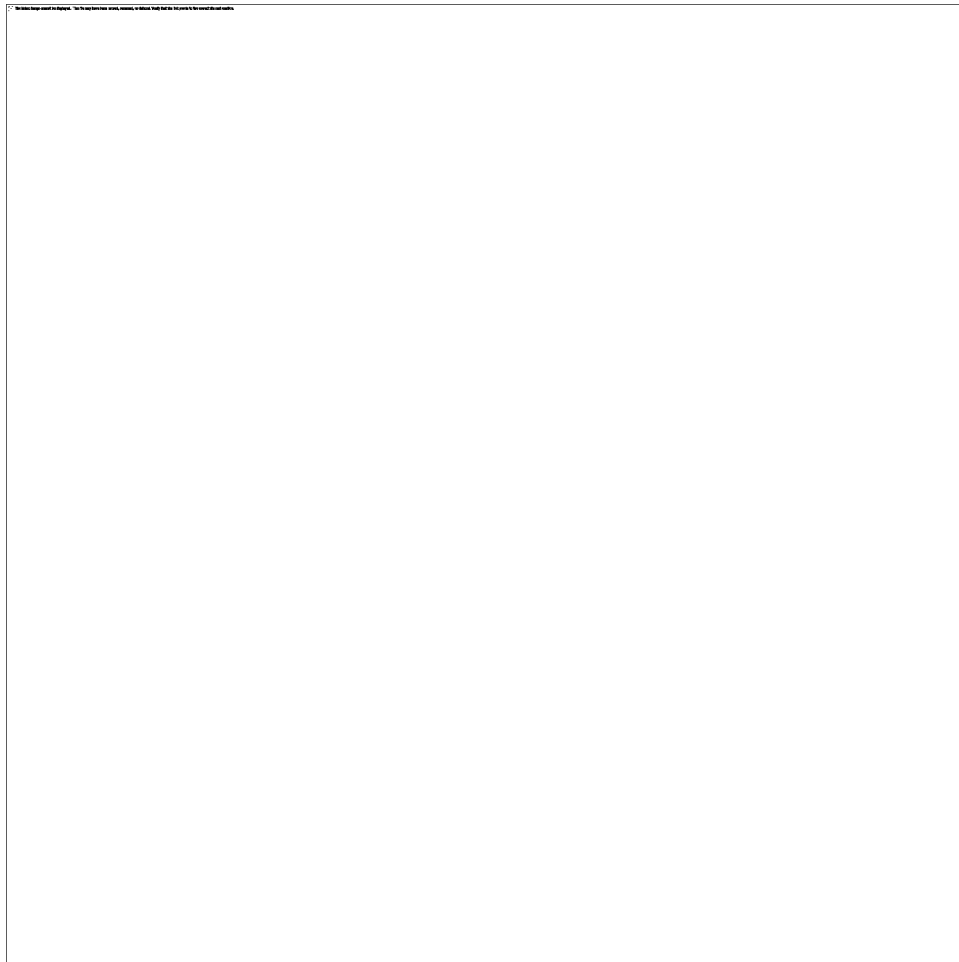
ATR lowers the boom.

Washington Examiner (8/8/19) column: "There is little support for a carbon tax among conservatives. Not in Congress, not in the conservative movement, and certainly not among everyday voters. Despite a deep-pocketed, full-court

lobbying operation targeting GOP legislators, advocacy groups have convinced exactly one Republican in Congress to support carbon tax legislation...In reality, opposition to a carbon tax is about as unanimous as it gets on the right. In a June letter sent to Congress, 89 free-market organizations including Americans for Tax Reform, Club for Growth, Americans for Prosperity, and the American Legislative Exchange Council all voiced their opposition to *any form* of a carbon tax. The official Republican party platform also rejects any carbon tax, while the Democrat party platform explicitly endorses one."

A shocked Micheal Moore uncovers the fact that wind, solar, and EVs all rely on natural resources...

ABC (8/8/19) reports: "What if alternative energy isn't all it's cracked up to be? That's the provocative question explored in the documentary 'Planet of the Humans,' which is backed and promoted by filmmaker Michael Moore and directed by one of his longtime collaborators. It premiered last week at his Traverse City Film Festival...Moore said they were shocked to find how inextricably entangled alternative energy is with coal and natural gas, since they say everything from wind turbines to electric car charging stations are tethered to the grid..."



There they go again. The peak oil crowd never learns. Now it's peak Permian.

Forbes (8/8/19) column: "As I wrote in my piece last week, there is no doubt that activity in the booming Permian Basin is slowing down, and in fact has been gradually slowing throughout this year. But as I also noted, that does not mean that, as some in the energy-related media are claiming, that the most active drilling basin in the world is 'dying,' 'on its last legs,' or even 'peaking.' It means the rate of growth, while still robust, is proceeding at a slower pace than it did during 2018...It remains the premier world-class oil resource in the Western Hemisphere. If it is suffering from anything, it is from a lack of understanding by many analysts, media observers and perhaps most importantly, investors, about what is really fundamentally taking place in West Texas and Southeast New Mexico. That's a story that the industry itself is going to have to a better job of telling, because no one else is going to do that on its behalf."

The brain-trust in King Cuomo's office wants to prevent blackouts by mirroring European policy.

E&E News (8/8/19) column: "New York is studying Europe's playbook for developing offshore wind, but some lessons may get lost in translation as the

Empire State pursues some of the largest wind projects planned in U.S. waters, according to a report yesterday from the New York Power Authority...But some news has been less encouraging for the fledgling U.S. industry. Vineyard Wind LLC's proposal to add wind turbines off the coast of Martha's Vineyard has been mired in controversies over fishing impacts, raising the specter of prior wind proposals in the Northeast that faltered due to delays and high costs. Potentially the first offshore wind farm of commercial scale, Vineyard had expected to complete a key environmental review by mid-July, but internal disagreements among federal agencies tasked with overseeing the 800-MW project have postponed its release. "

About as punk rock as Kenny G.

Spiked (8/8/19) column: "London's Victoria and Albert Museum has acquired a number of artifacts associated with Extinction Rebellion (XR), the protest group campaigning to reduce Britain's carbon emissions to 'net zero' by 2025.

Apparently, just nine months since Extinction Rebellion's first public stunt, its paraphernalia deserves to be housed alongside some of the world's best art and design works of the past 5,000 years. It is hard to think of any supposedly radical protest movement in history that has been so readily embraced by the establishment as Extinction Rebellion...The reason for this establishment love-

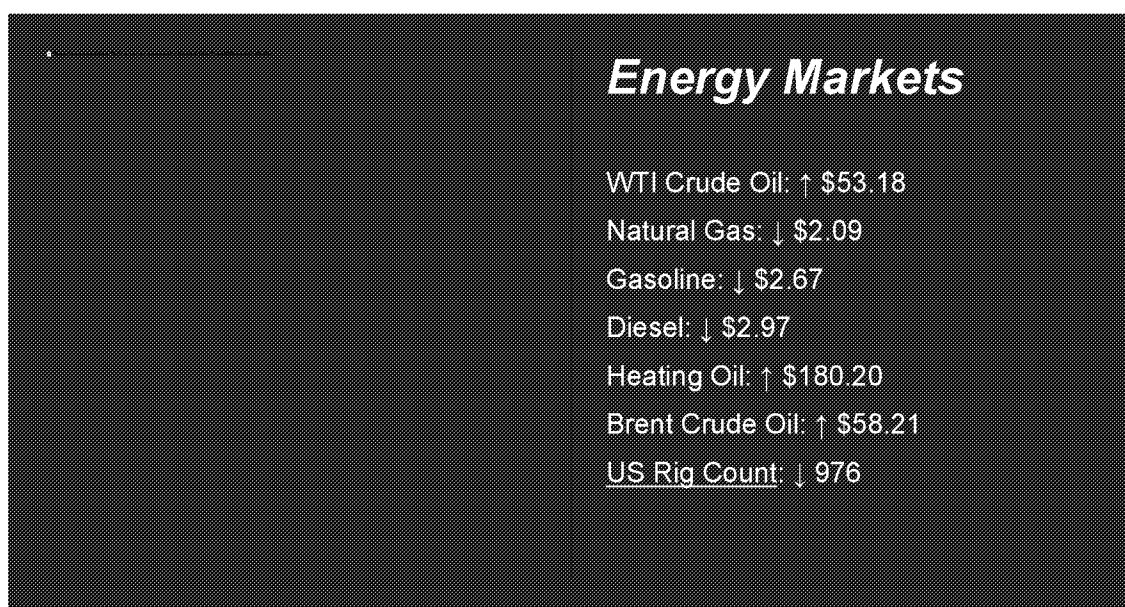
in is that Extinction Rebellion represents no rebellion at all. It has the appearance of a rebellion, certainly – protesters glue their hands to buildings, block roads and get themselves arrested. But the message is one that affirms and flatters establishment opinion rather than challenging it."



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Phil Kerpen, American Commitment
Andrew Quinlan, Center for Freedom and Prosperity
Tim Phillips, Americans for Prosperity
Grover Norquist, Americans for Tax Reform
George Landrith, Frontiers of Freedom
Thomas A. Schatz, Citizens Against Government Waste
Richard Manning, Americans for Limited Government
Adam Brandon, FreedomWorks
Craig Richardson, E&E Legal
Benjamin Zycher, American Enterprise Institute
Amy Oliver Cooke, Independence Institute
Jason Hayes, Mackinac Center
David Williams, Taxpayers Protection Alliance
Paul Gessing, Rio Grande Foundation
Seton Motley, Less Government
Nathan Nascimento, Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce
Isaac Orr, Center of the American Experiment
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John Droz, Alliance for Wise Energy Decisions
Mark Mathis, Clear Energy Alliance

Mandy Gunasekara, Energy 45
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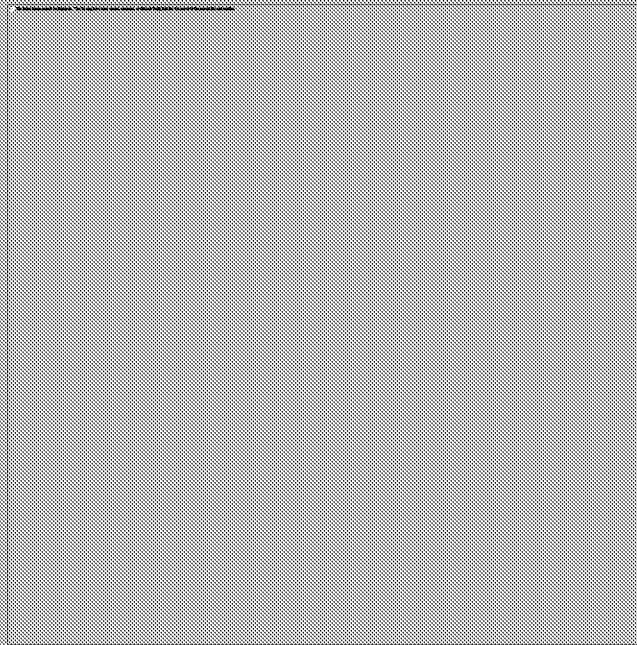
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To: Woods, Clint [woods.clint@epa.gov]
Subject: Truth to power

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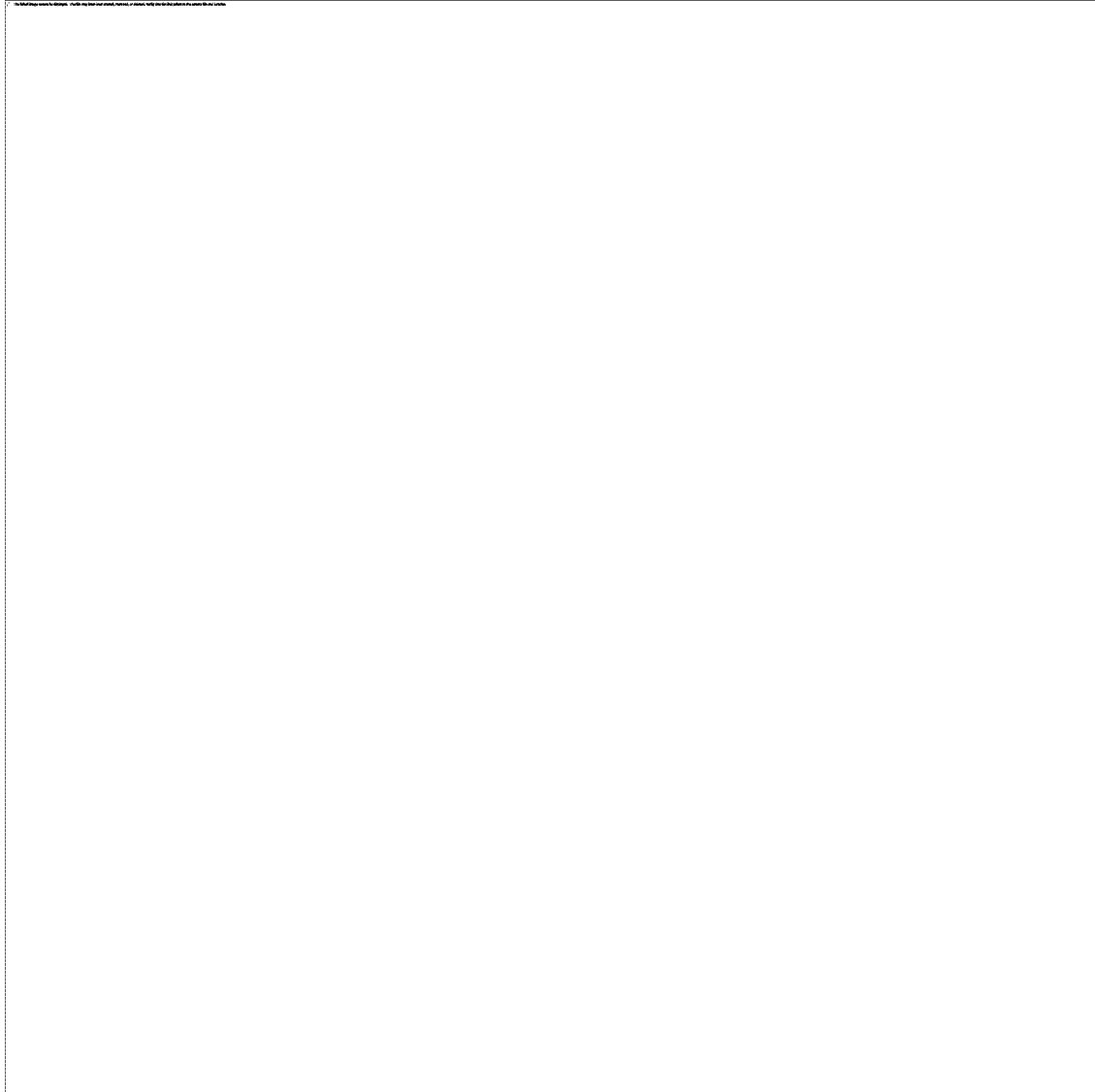


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A hero for liberty around the world. Farewell, my friend.

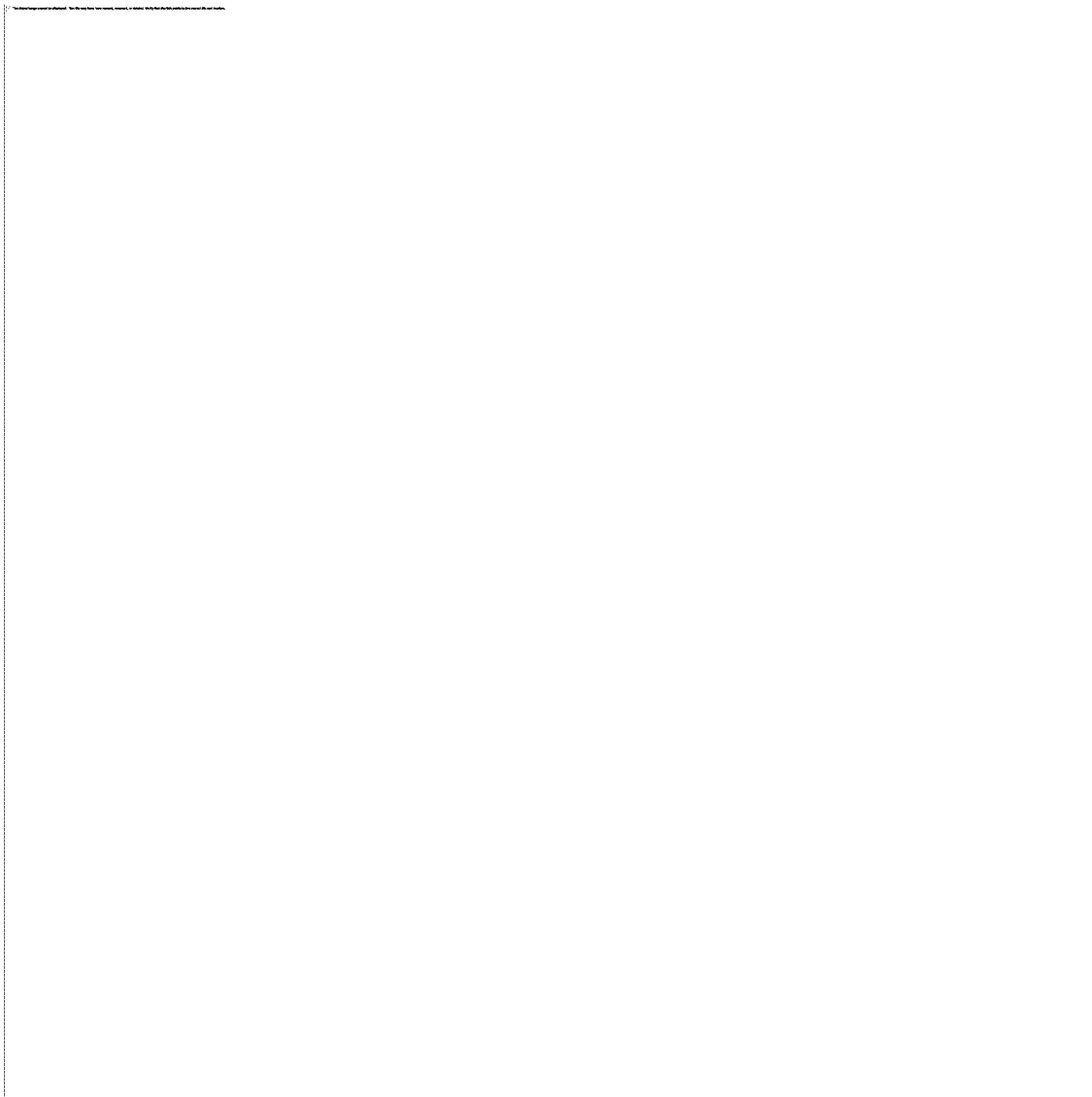
Cal Coast News (7/28/19) reports: "Alex Alexiev, an accomplished geopolitical analyst who lived and worked in numerous locations around the world, including San Luis Obispo County, where he raised a family and resided for 15 years, died early Sunday morning in his native Bulgaria at 77. Alexiev was the son of Rayko Alexiev, a renowned Bulgarian writer and caricaturist, who was tortured and killed in 1944, following the communist takeover of Bulgaria. Alex Alexiev escaped communist Bulgaria in the 1960s, resettling in California and embarking upon a long career as a geopolitical analyst, working for think tanks, as well as the United States Department of Defense. 'Alex was a beacon of reason and wisdom earned over a long life that he shared with his followers and readers, friends and even opponents,' said Ilian Vassilev, the former Bulgarian ambassador to Russia and current managing editor of the publication Bulgaria Analytica, a role he had shared with Alexiev. 'He rarely spoke in public on anything else but topics which he had mastered — radical Islam and Kremlinology. He was listened to in many places world over. This came at a cost; his openness earned him entry bans to a number of countries.'"

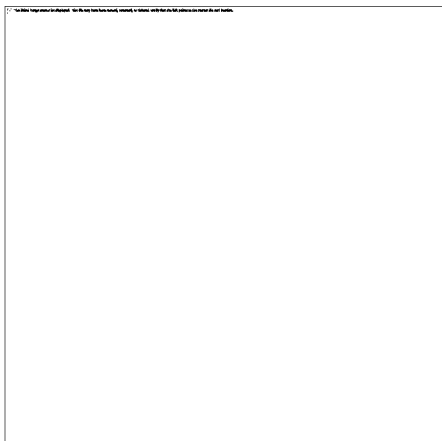


Speaking of telling truth to power, Chris Wright imparts some of his energy wisdom

on members of the Committee on the End of the World...

Chris Wright (8/1/19) testimony: "Energy matters. A lot. Throughout all of human history, global life expectancy was 30-35 years. In the last 200 years, global life expectancy has doubled. Extreme poverty has dropped from 90% of humanity to 10% and falling. The growth in human liberty and the dramatic increase in available energy are likely the two main catalysts for this tremendous progress...The U.S. shale revolution is aiding the poor abroad and in the U.S. via much cheaper oil and natural gas. Our shale revolution saves global consumers over one trillion dollars every year. Natural gas has become the number one source of electricity in the U.S., helping clean our air and being the largest factor in driving our CO2 emissions per person to a more than 50-year low!"





"Prince Harry and his dad, Charles, should spare us their preening about the fragile earth, family size and the climate until they are ready to live like the rest of us, paying taxes with a far smaller carbon footprint. At least bulldoze the royal vacation homes and fly commercial, if at all, for starters. It would save a lot more carbon than having fewer children."

— Peter Murphy, CFACT

Wait, you mean they're not compostable?

Oil City News (7/30/19) reports: "The city of Casper has released a statement confirming the disposal of wind turbine blades in the Casper Regional Solid

Waste Facility. This, after pictures of the turbine blades surfaced on social media. The City of Casper says the facility has been accepting fiberglass wind turbine blades, that are being replaced, for disposal. The says they were contacted in early 2019 regarding the potential disposal project... 'Wind turbine blades are made of non-recyclable fiberglass which are extremely difficult to crush,' a statement from the City of Casper said, Tuesday. 'Destroying the blades requires compacting equipment more powerful and larger than the Casper Regional Solid Waste Facility has. Disposal in a landfill is a viable option as fiberglass is a material that does not leach components into the soil or groundwater and thus can be buried in an unlined landfill.'"

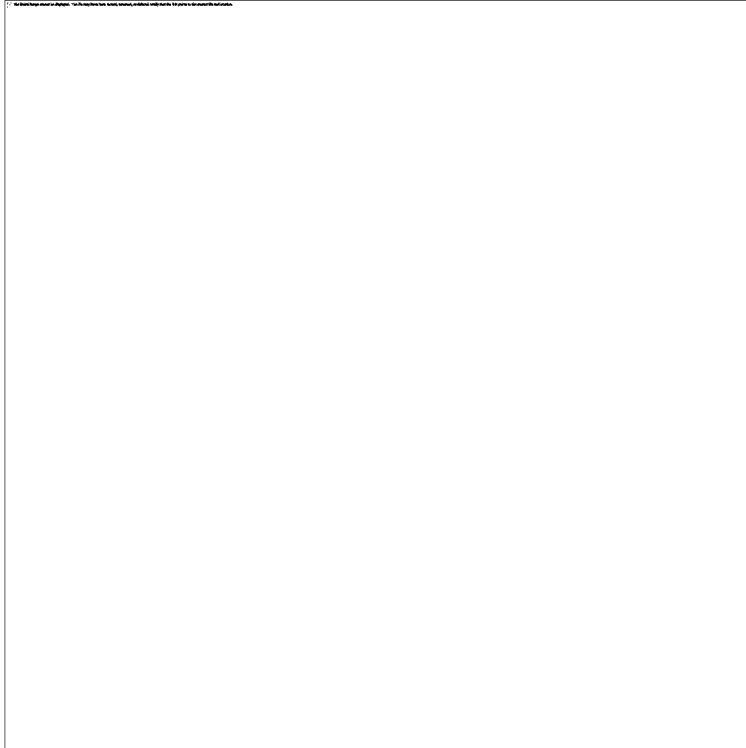


If only anyone could have predicted the terrible "unintended consequences" of taxing energy.

E&E News (8/1/19) reports: "Sweden's introduction today of a tax aimed at phasing out the nation's last remaining coal and gas plants to curb global warming comes with an unintended consequence for some of its biggest cities. Hiking threefold a levy on fossil fuels used at local power plants will make such facilities unprofitable, and utilities from Stockholm Exergi AB to E.ON SE have said they will halt or cut power production...'Combined heat and power plants must carry their own cost to the environment, even if they have an important role to play for the supply of energy,' Anders Ygeman, minister for energy and digitalization, said in an emailed statement. 'The tax will contribute to the ongoing away shift from fossil fuels.' Ygeman said it is still too early to say what impact the new tax will have, but there are already examples of its impact. Some new day care centers have to wait for months to be connected to the grid in Stockholm. A bread factory in Malmö was denied a license to expand because it would consume too much power."

A behind the scenes look at how Telsa generates its production targets.

Green Tech Media (7/31/19) reports: "Tesla CEO Elon Musk dropped another eye-catching tweet this week, this time announcing an ambitious target for solar roof production that analysts say looks improbable. Tesla executives made no mention of the solar roof during the company's second-quarter earnings call last week, but Musk followed up with a tweet that the company will be 'spooling up production line rapidly' and hopes to turn out about 1,000 solar roofs per week by the end of this year...Austin Perea, a senior solar analyst at Wood Mackenzie Power & Renewables, categorized the 1,000-per-week target as near-impossible to meet, especially in light of the relatively low deployments of the product to date. 'Elon Musk will put a man on Mars before he produces 1,000 solar roofs per week by end of year,' said Perea."



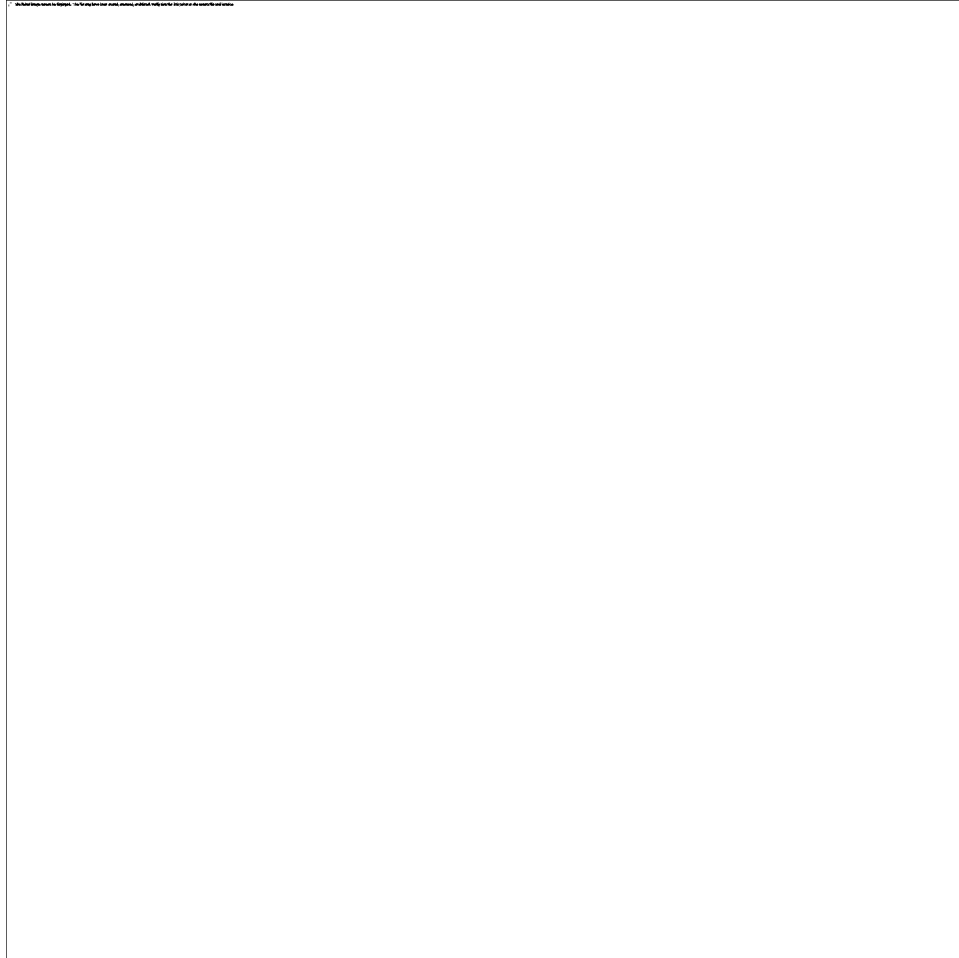
Can we get a Snopes fact check on this?

Babylon Bee (8/1/19) reports: "Climate experts have solemnly warned that we only have twelve years left until they change the dates on global warming again. 'If we don't take action, then in 12 years we will have to explain why the world hasn't ended and come up with a new number,' one UN scientist warned. 'This is a very serious threat, and we urge everyone to hand control of the

economy to the government immediately before we have no more time left to change the timeline again.'The scientific consensus is that roughly 10-12 years from now, the world will be flooded with new doomsday predictions. This can all be avoided if we overhaul the economy and become socialists, according to non-political, unbiased sciencey type guys."

When you accidentally agree with Trump and admit the Paris Agreement is worthless.

The Hill (7/31/19) reports: "Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) took aim at former Vice President Joe Biden's pledge to rejoin the Paris climate accord should he win the presidency during Wednesday's debate in Detroit, calling it a 'kindergarten' step to addressing the threat of climate change. Booker responded to Biden's defense of his climate policy, which was criticized by Washington Gov. Jay Inslee (D) and others during the debate, by calling for the U.S. to take bold steps to address the crisis of rising global temperatures. 'Nobody should get applause when they say they're going to rejoin the Paris climate accord. That is kindergarten, we need advanced thinking,' Booker said."



Even the crazies thought it crazy.

E&E News (8/2/19) reports: "The Trump administration's line of attack against

the National Climate Assessment came from EPA career staffers who worried that the alarming report would undermine their modeling work, a former senior political official told E&E News. Mandy Gunasekara, who was EPA's deputy air chief until her February departure, said technical staff in EPA's Office of Atmospheric Programs raised concerns about the use of higher-end assumptions in the report during weekly meetings with herself and then-Assistant Administrator Bill Wehrum...Gunasekara also suggested that future editions of the NCA might use new models that are tailored to reflect U.S.-only climate outcomes."

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Phil Kerpen, American Commitment

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David T. Stevenson & Clint Laird, Caesar Rodney Institute
John Droz, Alliance for Wise Energy Decisions
Hon. Tim Huelskamp, Ph.D., The Heartland Institute
Mark Mathis, Clear Energy Alliance
Mandy Gunasekara, Energy 45
Jack Ekstrom, PolicyWorks America

Energy Markets

WTI Crude Oil: ↑ \$55.31

Natural Gas: ↓ \$2.15

Gasoline: ↑ \$2.72

Diesel: ~ \$2.98

Heating Oil: ↑ \$189.19

Brent Crude Oil: ↑ \$62.22

US Rig Count: ↓ 973



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Message

From: Tubb, Katie [Katie.Tubb@heritage.org]
Sent: 4/17/2019 3:24:11 PM
To: Woods, Clint [woods.clint@epa.gov]
Subject: introduction and LNT informational question

Hello Clint,

My name is Katie Tubb and I work for the Heritage Foundation on energy and environment issues. I am trying to find someone at EPA who could get me up to speed on EPA's work on the "linear no threshold" approach to regulation that was included in the scientific transparency proposed rule, and particularly the implications for radiation exposure standards.

I reached out to Mandy Gunasekara and she recommended I speak with you. I'd appreciate the chance to hear what EPA has done and where it's going (or not going) if you have some time in the next few weeks.

Thanks for considering,

Katie

Katie Tubb
Senior Policy Analyst, Energy and Environmental
Institute for Economic Freedom
The Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
202-675-1767
heritage.org

Message

From: American Energy Alliance [info@americanenergyalliance.org]
Sent: 7/26/2019 12:42:45 PM
To: Woods, Clint [woods.clint@epa.gov]
Subject: What powered the Apollo 11 mission?

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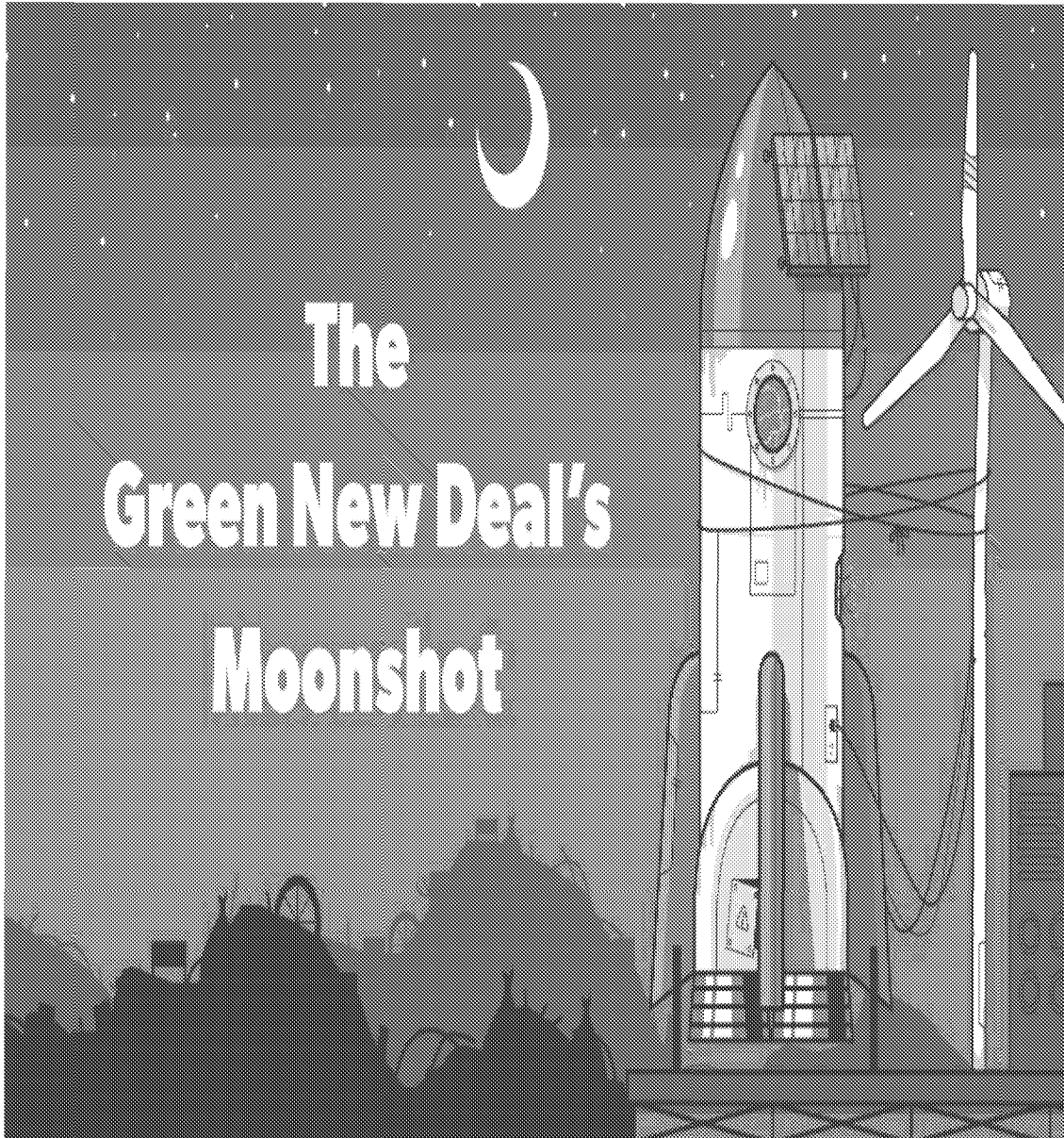
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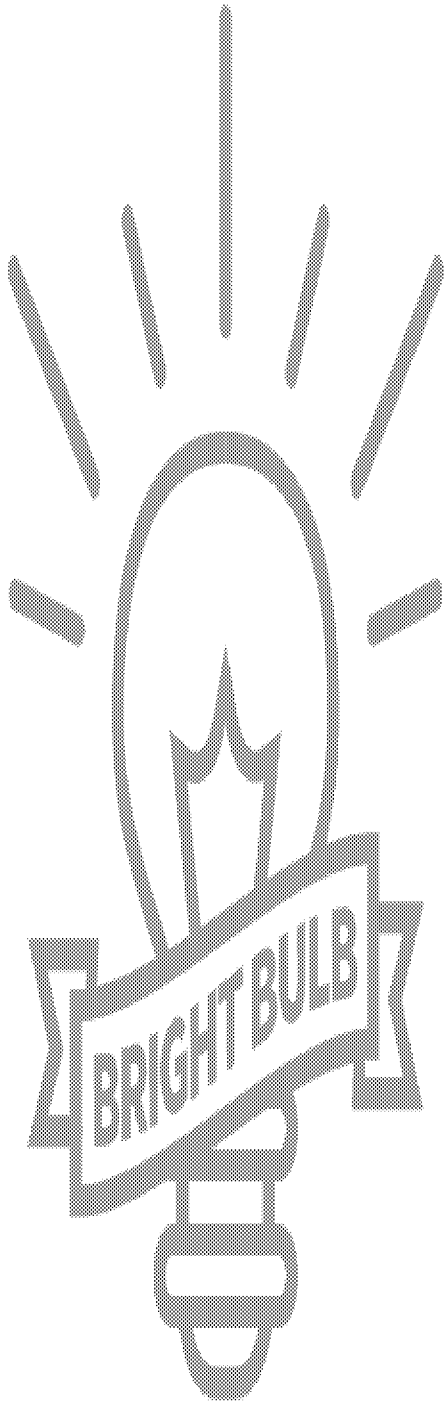
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No really, do these people actually understand what fueled the moonshot?

UPI (7/25/19) reports: "Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand laid out her climate change plan Thursday, which calls for a carbon tax on polluters and net-zero emissions within the first decade of her administration. Like her fellow Democratic candidates, the New York senator seeks to make the fight against climate change a key part of her 2020 campaign, backing the Green New Deal with her own plan she dubbed a 'Climate Change Moonshot.'"

The Green New Deal's Moonshot



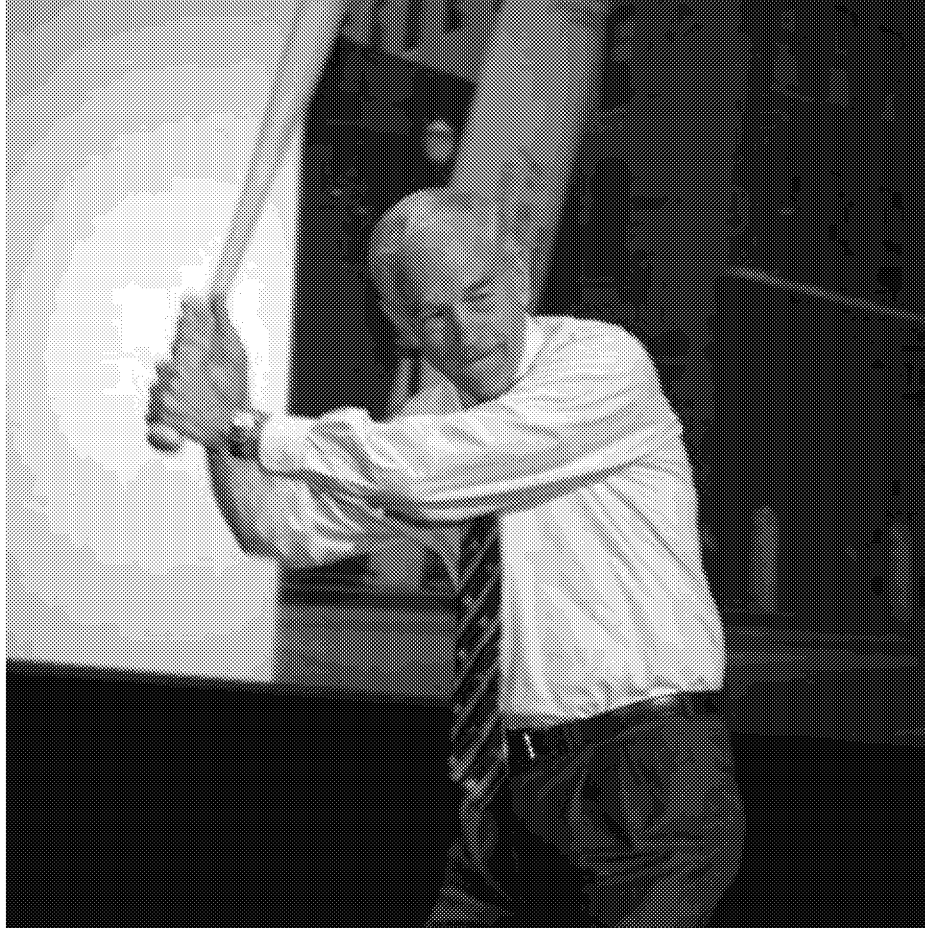


"Demands that all new energy production comes from renewable sources and that no new fossil fuel capacity be built are putting the reliability of New England's power grid at risk."

—Andrew Cline, Josiah Bartlett
Center For Public Policy

When the Fed starts talking about climate policy.

E&E News (7/25/19) reports: "The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco is planning a research conference on climate change — a first for the central bank. A memo seeking submissions for the conference scheduled for Nov. 8 was first reported by *Axios* on Tuesday and confirmed by the federal bank yesterday afternoon. Potential research topics described in the memo include measuring the costs of climate change, quantifying risks faced by households and the financial system, and incorporating climate change into growth forecasting."



***Should we really throw the baby out with
the bathwater?***

Reuters (7/23/19) reports: "The Trump administration is split over whether to renew a license this week for energy company Chevron Corp's operations in Venezuela, with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo supporting a renewal and others opposing it, three sources with knowledge of the matter said on Tuesday. At issue is a six-month U.S. Treasury Department license that expires on July 27 that has allowed Chevron to keep operating its four joint ventures in Venezuela despite U.S. sanctions on the OPEC nation's oil sector...White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow also favors renewing the license, the sources said. John Bolton, Trump's national security adviser, opposes renewal as part of keeping maximum pressure on Maduro, the sources said. If Chevron is forced to leave, it could further crimp cash flow to Maduro's government, as oil production could dip."

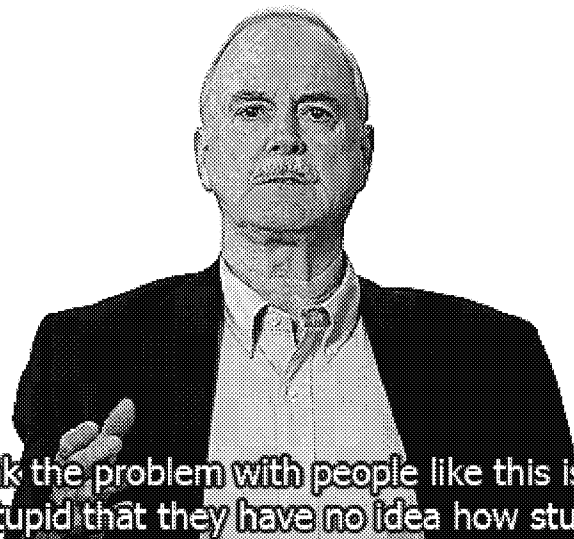
Newspapers are faring worse than the coal industry they are working so hard to kill.

Pew Research Centers (7/23/19) reports: "Every year since 2004, Pew Research Center has issued an assessment of the state of the news media, tracking key audience and economic indicators for a variety of sectors within the U.S. journalism industry. Here are some key findings about the state of the

industry in 2018...U.S. newspaper circulation reached its lowest level since 1940...Cable news was a bright spot in another down year for the U.S. news media industry's economic fortunes...Digital ad revenue has grown exponentially, but a majority goes to Facebook and Google rather than to publishers...The audience for local TV news has steadily declined...Traffic to news websites seems to have leveled off."

Only in California is energy illiteracy contagious.

Inside Climate News (7/23/19) reports: "Berkeley has become the first city in the United States to ban the use of natural gas in new low-rise buildings, and it isn't the only California community looking for ways to shift its buildings away from burning fossil fuels. Cities and towns across the state are considering measures to encourage developers to use only electric appliances in new buildings—and skip installing natural gas lines for stoves, furnaces and water heaters. Ken Davies, interim deputy director of Climate Smart San Jose, a unit within the city of San Jose's environmental services department, estimates about 60 cities and towns across the state—including San Jose—are considering building code measures to promote electric appliances as a way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions."



I think the problem with people like this is that they're so stupid that they have no idea how stupid they are.

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Paul Gessing, Rio Grande Foundation
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John Droz, Alliance for Wise Energy Decisions
Hon. Tim Huelskamp, Ph.D., The Heartland Institute
Mark Mathis, Clear Energy Alliance
Mandy Gunasekara, Energy 45
Jack Ekstrom, PolicyWorks America




Energy Markets

WTI Crude Oil: ↑ \$56.43
Natural Gas: ↓ \$2.23
Gasoline: ↓ \$2.74
Diesel: ↓ \$2.99
Heating Oil: ↑ \$192.13
Brent Crude Oil: ↑ \$63.76
US Rig Count: ↑ 986

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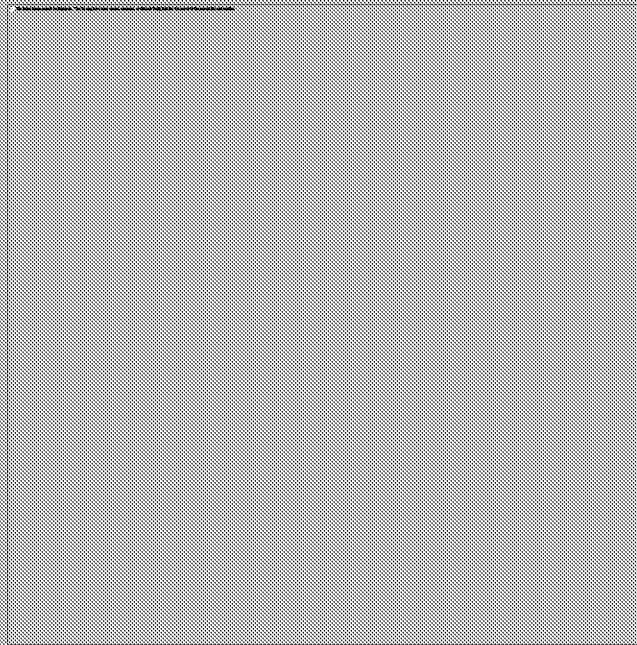
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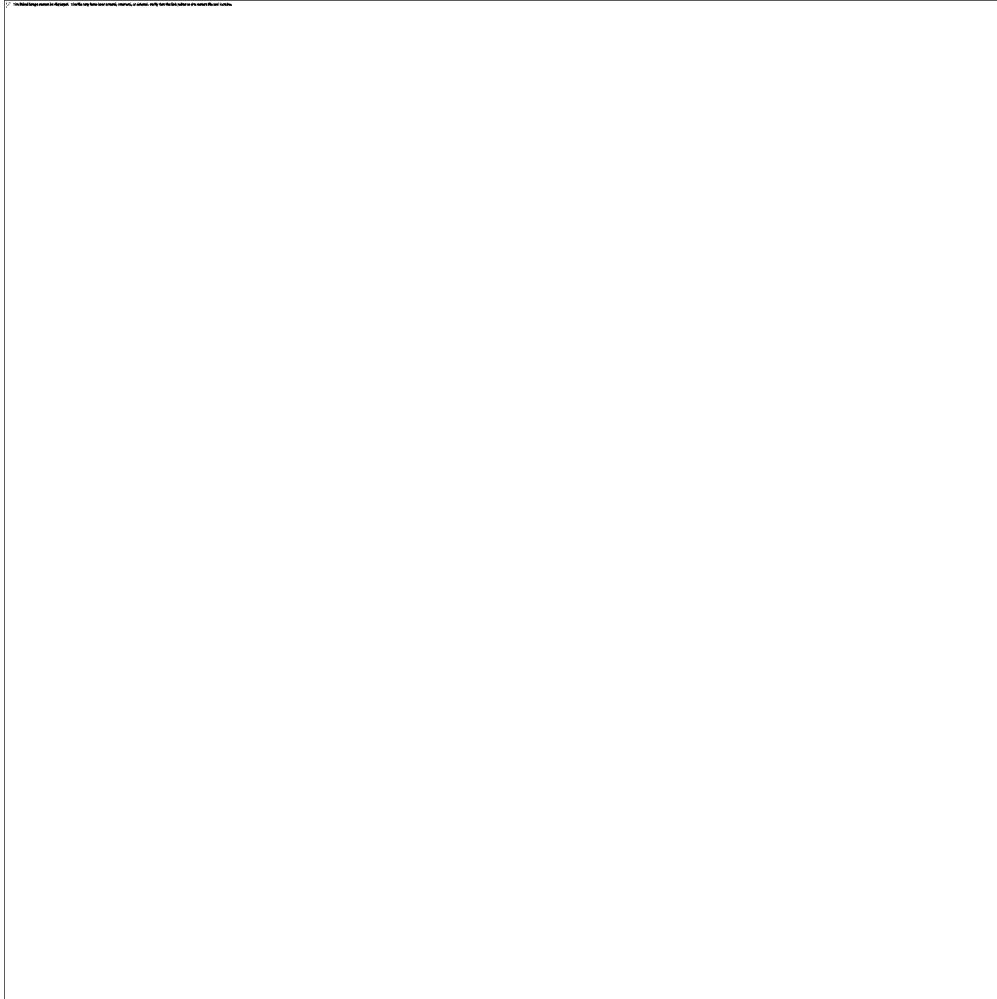


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And this isn't even the dumbest thing in today's Pipeline...

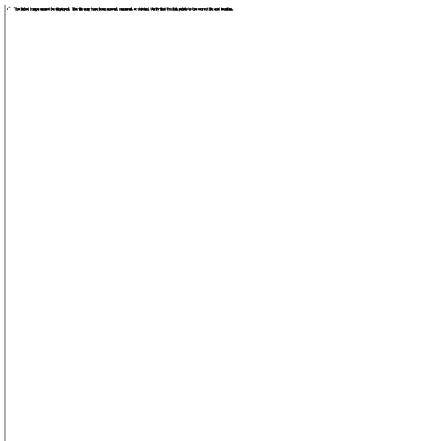
[San Francisco Chronicle](#) (7/18/19) reports: "Berkeley has become the first city in the nation to ban the installation of natural gas lines in new homes. The City Council on Tuesday night unanimously voted to ban gas from new low-rise residential buildings starting Jan. 1...The natural gas ordinance, introduced by Councilwoman Kate Harrison, requires all new single-family homes, town homes and small apartment buildings to have electric infrastructure. After its passage, Harrison thanked the community and her colleagues 'for making Berkeley the first city in California and the United States to prohibit natural gas infrastructure in new buildings.'"



Not a bad starting salary.

CNS (7/18/19) reports: "The Berkeley, California City Council has authorized paying a \$273,341 annual salary to a new position dedicated to implementing the nation's first ban on natural gas in new buildings. On Tuesday, the council

approved an ordinance proposed by Councilmember Kate Harrison, effective January 1, 2020, on any new buildings, requiring all new buildings built to have electric infrastructure and banning natural gas energy...The initial version of the proposal called for the creation of a 'career' (permanent) position, which was revised to a two-year job before passage."



"An abundance of inexpensive American gas is transforming global energy markets, providing important geopolitical gains from the export of liquefied natural gas."

— J. Winston Porter, PhD.,
Former EPA Assistant Administrator

Never shake a San Franciscan with your left hand.

San Francisco Chronicle (7/18/19) reports: "Few places in the country are more conscientious about sustainability and protecting the environment than the Bay Area. We recycle plastics, glass, paper and cans religiously. Bring tote bags to the supermarket. Install low-flush toilets and water-saving shower nozzles. Compost food scraps and milk cartons. But like everyone else, we also love a good deal. So for bulk products at a discount, many of us turn to Costco, a big-box favorite that lives up to its mission statement to provide its members with quality goods and services at the lowest possible prices. Unfortunately, one of Costco's biggest sellers — toilet paper — is contributing to the destruction of Canada's great boreal forest, according to a recent study."



Who could have predicted shutting down operational coal and nuclear plants would lead to energy shortages?

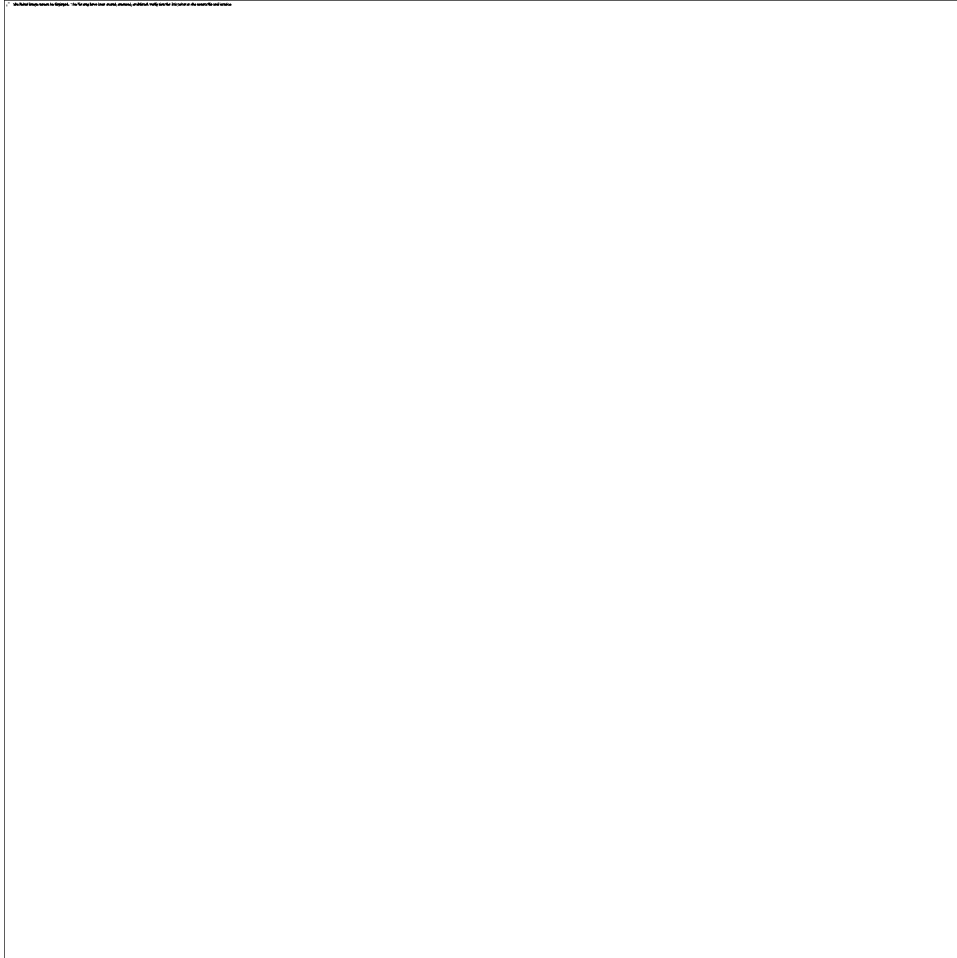
Reuters (7/18/19) reports: "Germany, a poster child for responsible energy, is renouncing nuclear and coal. The problem is, say many power producers and grid operators, it may struggle to keep the lights on. The country, the biggest electricity market in the European Union, is abandoning nuclear power by 2022 due to safety concerns compounded by the Fukushima disaster and phasing out coal plants over the next 19 years to combat climate change...Utilities and grid firms say if the weather is unfavorable for lengthy periods, green power supply can be negligible, while storage is still largely non-existent. Capacity aside, the network to transport renewable power from north to south is also years and thousands of kilometers behind schedule, they add...The government rejected such concerns."

In a rare moment of candor, the greens acknowledge hijacking the defense bill.



Stunning and brave billionaire pledges to refuse donations from industry he now seeks to destroy but once profited handsomely from.

E&E News (7/18/19) reports: "Presidential candidate Tom Steyer signed onto a pledge yesterday not to accept campaign contributions from fossil fuel industry leaders. Steyer's campaign said he's put his name on the No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge, less than 10 days after entering the race, becoming the 21st of the 25 Democrats currently running for president to do so...The former hedge fund manager was a prolific campaign spender for Democrats before he jumped into the race. When he announced his campaign, he pledged to spend \$100 million of his own money for the chance to face off against President Trump."



Kim just dropped the mic.

Wall Street Journal (7/18/19) column: "House Democrats are setting records

with their abuses of power, which means they aren't stopping at just the Trump administration. Witness their new targeting of free-market nonprofits and businesses, straight out of the intimidation playbook. Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Frank Pallone Jr. a month ago sent a letter to five separate entities. The recipients included two nonprofits, Americans for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council; a trade association, American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers; an oil company, Marathon Petroleum; and a coalition, Energy4US, that includes dozens of union locals and business groups...Mr. Pallone then got down to his unconstitutional demands. He insisted that these private entities turn over "all documents exchanged and communications" about the rule with any employee, current or former, of key federal departments and the office of the president. The groups were also ordered to hand over documents and communications they'd exchanged with each other. Mr. Pallone further demanded groups like AFP detail all of their efforts, 'whether directly or indirectly,' in 'lobbying' or 'social media efforts' related to the reform. He gave them two weeks to sign up for his colonoscopy."

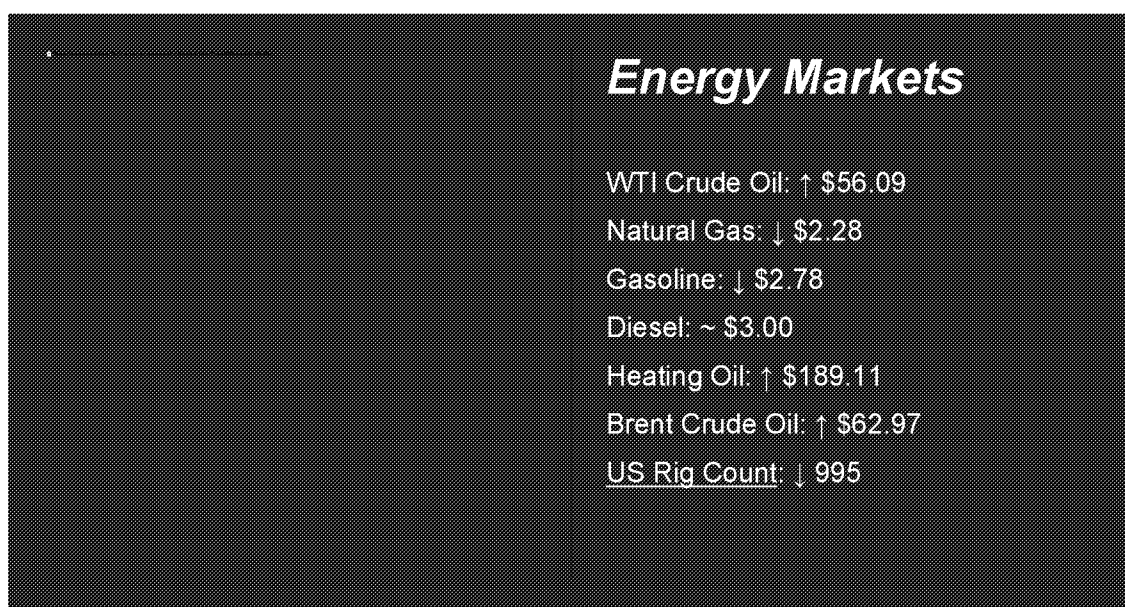
Step right up, folks. Don't be shy. Come one, come all...



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Phil Kerpen, American Commitment
Andrew Quinlan, Center for Freedom and Prosperity
Tim Phillips, Americans for Prosperity
Grover Norquist, Americans for Tax Reform
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Richard Manning, Americans for Limited Government
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David T. Stevenson & Clint Laird, Caesar Rodney Institute
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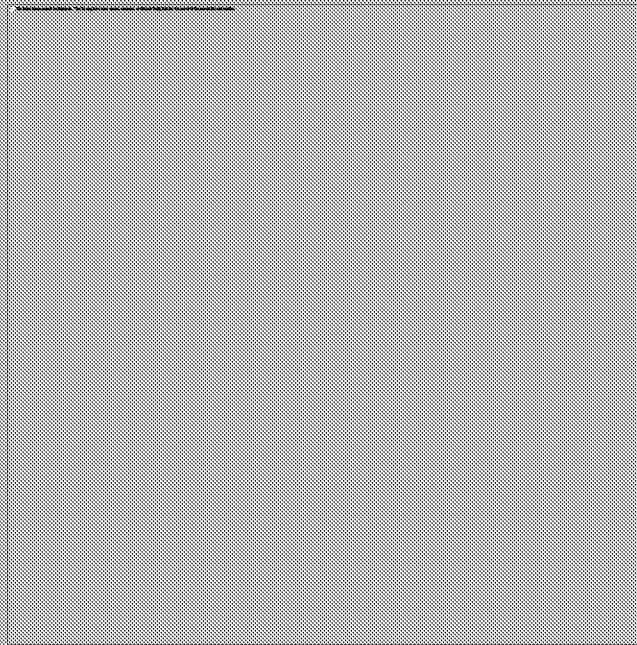
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From: American Energy Alliance [info@americanenergyalliance.org]
Sent: 7/5/2019 3:39:08 PM
To: Woods, Clint [woods.clint@epa.gov]
Subject: Freedom Molecules For The Win!

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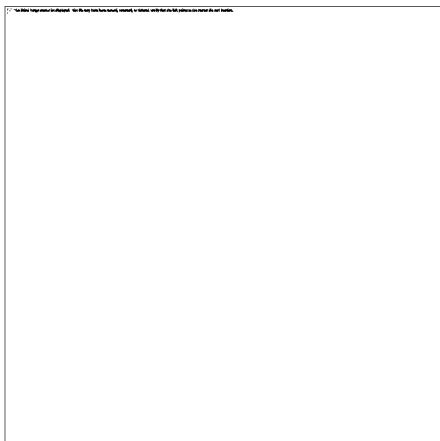
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Who is tired of winning?

Forbes (7/3/19) column: "The Department of Energy recently approved additional export volumes of natural gas through the Freeport liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in Texas, a move that promises environmental and economic benefits for the nation. Critics of natural gas mocked the decision and the phrasing used by the Trump administration, which said the approval would 'allow for molecules of U.S. freedom to be exported to the world...' The United States is now exporting LNG to 35 countries today, almost double the total export destinations since President Donald Trump first entered the White House."





"Under [Trump's] energy dominance agenda, the U.S. is projected to become a net energy exporter by 2020 and continue through 2050. Mississippi is well-positioned to be a continued part of this good news story that balances growth alongside environmental protection to the benefit of the local economy, its citizens and the health of our planet."

*— Mandy Gunasekara,
Energy 45 Fund*

Two can play this game.

Culpeper Star-Exponent (7/3/19) reports: "Foes of a proposed 1,300-acre,

utility-scale solar project are asking the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors to deny a permit for the facility. On Tuesday evening, the newly formed Citizens for Responsible Solar pressed the board to reject the California company's plan to build tens of thousands of solar panels on farmland along Algonquin Trail near Racoon Ford... The developer's proposal would strain the water supply, erode soil and strip land; impact historic preservation; provide a questionable economic benefit; undermine local residents' property values; and pose health and safety problems in the form of more traffic, congestion and noise."

The party is just getting started.

The Vindicator (7/2/19) reports: "YOUNGSTOWN — Mahoning County now has rights to any Utica shale deposits underneath county-owned land in Canfield, under a new lease agreement with Ohio Valley Energy approved this morning... Shale development is still happening near the border of Mahoning and Columbiana counties, including Springfield and Unity townships, but gas drillers led a Mahoning Valley 'gold rush' about five years ago. The county's original lease for the Canfield wells was signed sometime around 1989, Tusek said. 'Back 30 years ago, nobody had ever contemplated the possibility of ever doing anything beyond the shallow wells,' he said. 'This is all new technology.'"

I wonder if this will be addressed in the Democratic debates.

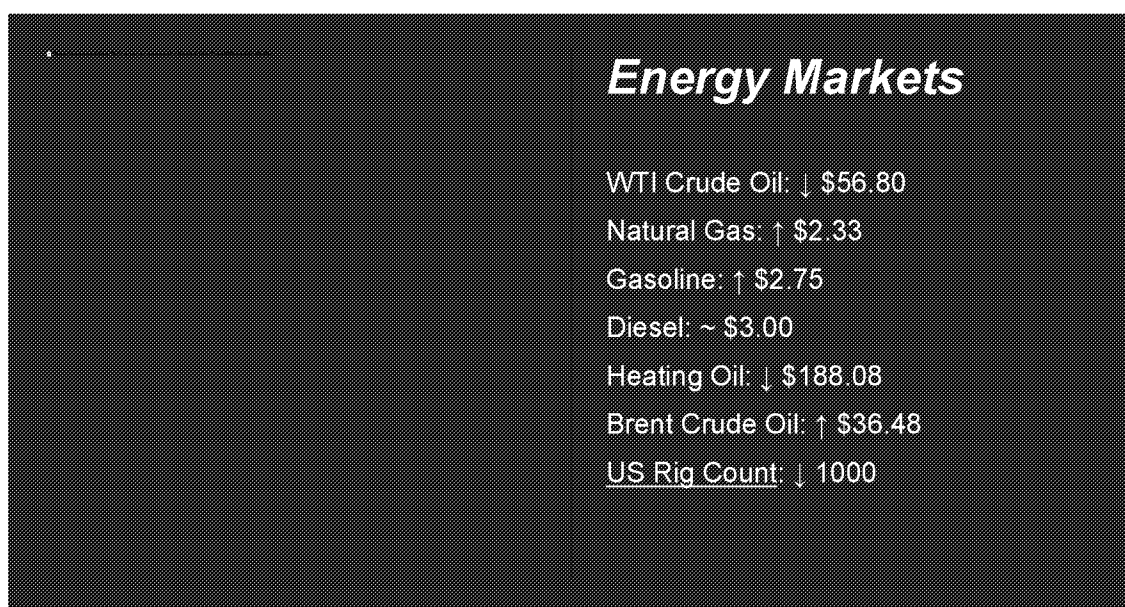
Energy In Depth (7/1/19) reports: "Removing oil and natural gas from the U.S. energy mix could have dire consequences, costing the country \$4.5 trillion – or \$35,000 per household – according to a new report from energy consulting firm Wood Mackenzie: 'For any country to embrace a nationwide transition to 100 percent renewable energy (RE100) or zero carbon (ZC100) emissions constitutes a massive disruption with far-flung economic and social repercussions.' As the report explains, in order to completely decarbonize by 2030: 'We estimate the cost of full decarbonisation of the US power grid at US\$4.5 trillion, given the current state of technology. That's nearly as much as what the country has spent, since 2001, on the war on terror. From a budgetary perspective, the cost is staggering at US\$35,000 per household – nearly US\$2,000 per year if assuming a 20-year plan.'"



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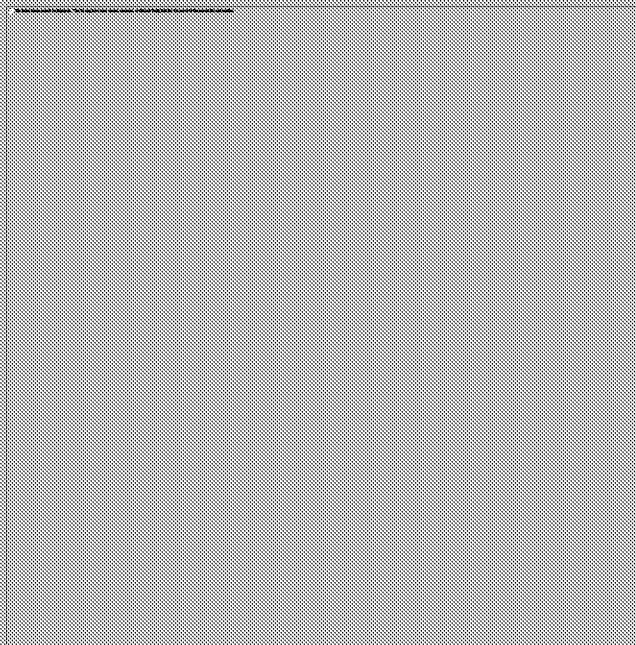
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Message

From: American Energy Alliance [info@americanenergyalliance.org]
Sent: 6/14/2019 1:14:24 PM
To: Woods, Clint [woods.clint@epa.gov]
Subject: Meet the brains behind the Green New Deal

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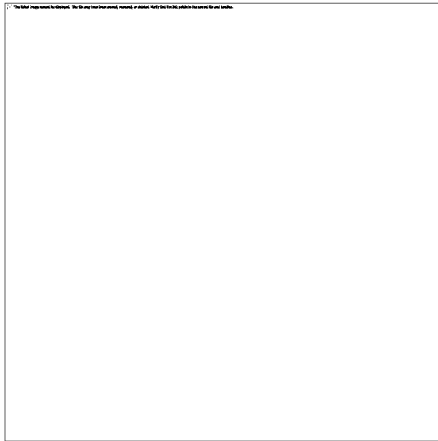
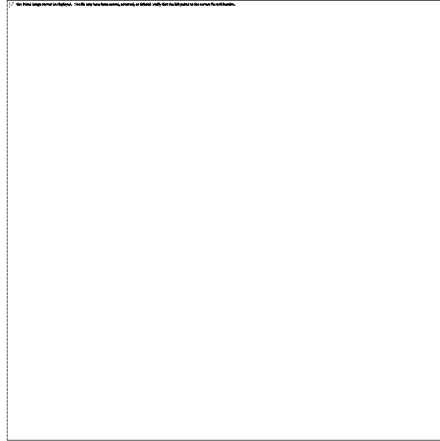


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122 days and the "brains" behind the Green New Deal still haven't revealed their plan to deal with farting cows.

The Atlantic (6/12/19) reports: "Almost seven months have passed since the November day when a few hundred young people, associated with a new climate-activism group called the Sunrise Movement, crammed into Nancy Pelosi's office. America's youngest congresswoman-elect ever joined them. 'This is not about me,' said Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who was effectively leading a protest on her first day on Capitol Hill...Yet it remains unclear what would actually be in a Green New Deal. While a handful of candidates have released their own attempts at a Green New Deal, the tight network of progressives most closely linked to the plan have offered little new detail. In particular, the think tank known as New Consensus—ostensibly in charge of turning the Green New Deal into real policy—has published almost nothing substantial about it."



"We're also supposed to swallow pseudo-scientific claims that supposedly show 'surging levels' of plant-fertilizing carbon dioxide are creating dangerous hybrid puffer fish, causing salmon to lose their ability to detect danger, making sharks right-handed and unable to hunt,

making Arctic plants get too tall, making coffee growing impossible in many countries, causing pigs to get skinnier and turning Earth into a super-heated Venus."

— Paul Driessen, CFACT

The bureaucracy is expanding to meet the needs of the expanding bureaucracy.

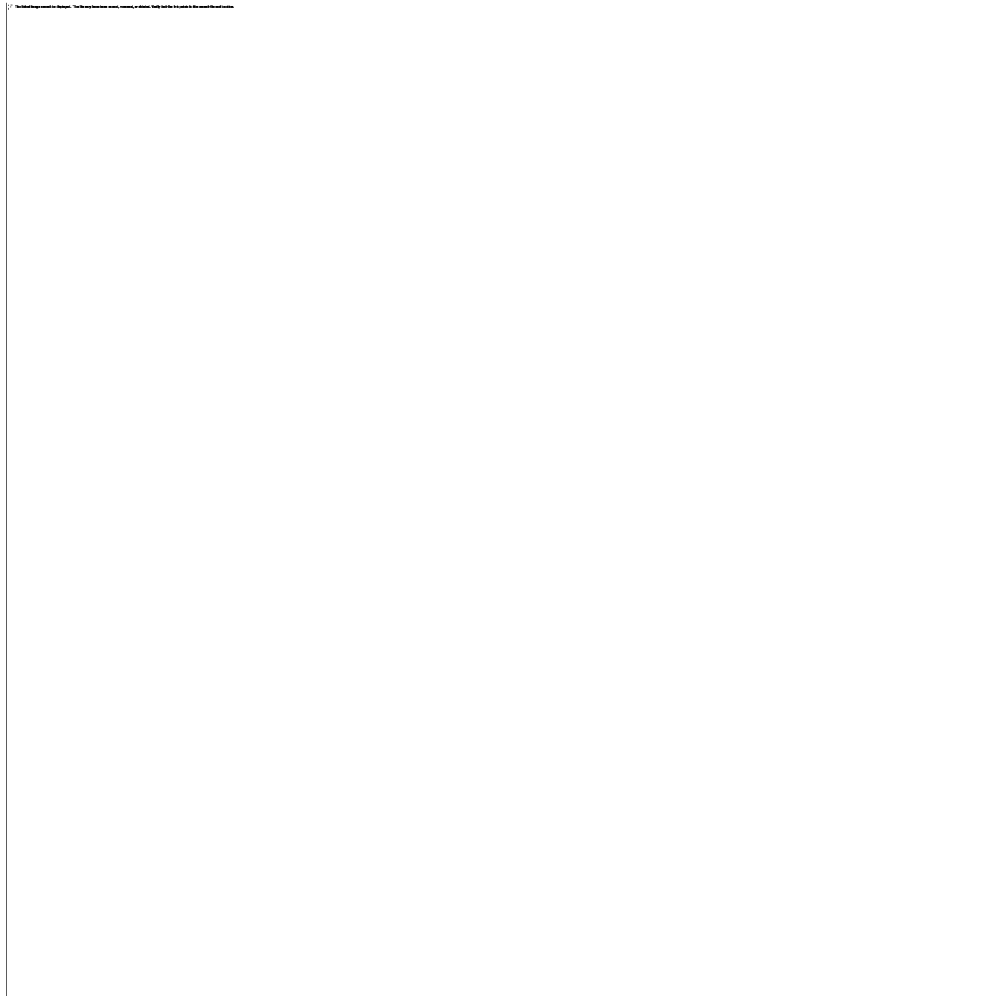
Americans for Tax Reform (6/12/19) blog: "A carbon tax and 'dividend' (hat tip to the beltway consultant who coined this suspect term) scheme would impose a large tax increase on the American people. It would also create a large new entitlement spending program and give the government more power over your life... The carbon tax scheme will task some agency or agencies with a significant bureaucratic undertaking: Enrollment, eligibility determination, fraud

prevention, caseworkers -- to resolve lost, missing, or inaccurate payments, custody and divorce issues (kids get the payments too) and bank account number updates -- software development, IT staffing, human resources management, legal staffing, and dozens of other logistical undertakings."

My offshore oil rigs don't always get taken over by "environmental campaigners" (aka ecoterrorists), but when they do, I will be sure to let them know I share their concerns about the climate and express my support the Paris agreement.

BBC (6/13/19) reports: "The occupation of an oil rig by Greenpeace protesters has been brought to an end. The environmental campaigners had first boarded the Transocean rig in the Cromarty Firth on Sunday evening. The rig, under contract to BP, had been due to leave from near Invergordon, heading for the Vorlich oil field east of Aberdeen...A BP spokesman said: "BP is grateful for the support of Police Scotland, Transocean and all authorities who helped bring this incident to a safe conclusion..."We share the protestors' concerns about

climate change, we support the Paris agreement and are committed to playing our part to advance the energy transition."



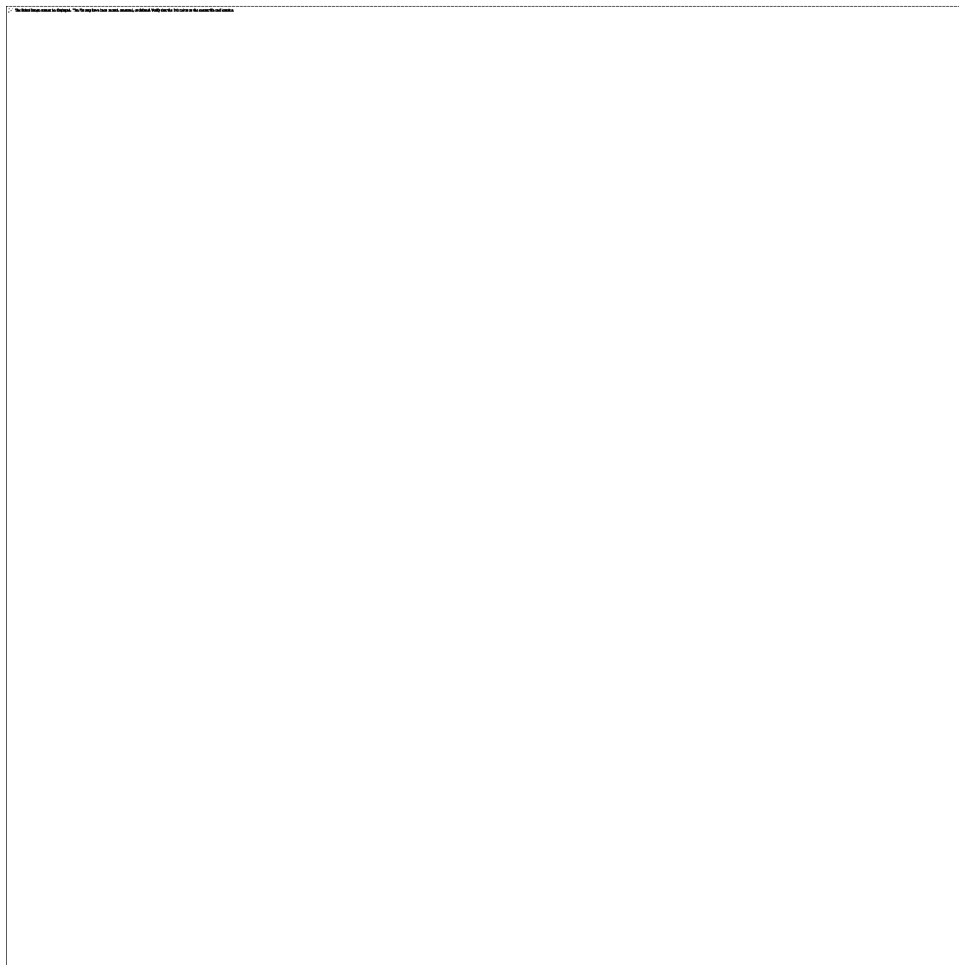
Awkward...

The Daily Caller (6/13/19) reports: "The newest TIME magazine cover features United Nations chief António Guterres standing in water off the island nation of Tuvalu, which the outlet called "one of the world's most vulnerable countries" to global warming....TIME titled it's Thursday cover story, "Our Sinking Planet." There's just one problem: Scientific studies show Tavalu's islands, indeed most Pacific islands, have actually grown in the face of sea level rise. A 2018 study found that Tuvalu's total land area grew nearly 3 percent from 1971 to 2014, despite rising sea levels. Satellite and aerial photos showed eight of Tuvalu's nine atolls and three-quarters of its reef islands increased in size over the last four decades."

When environmentalists comment they're "concerned citizens." When anyone else comments they're "trolls."

E&E (6/13/19) reports: "Impersonators, investors and trolls looking to combat a barrage of environmentalist form letters are among 64,000 comments and counting on Pebble's draft Army Corps environmental impact statement (EIS).

Thousands more arrive each day during an extended public comment period that ends July 1. As with any contentious project, national environmental groups have asked their members to sign and submit stock comments. In this case, they oppose a massive gold and copper mine that Alaska Natives and fishermen believe threatens a major salmon fishery downstream in Bristol Bay."



Instead of NOPEC, how about we pass a law to allow politicians to be sued for their anti-competitive attempts to limit the world's supply of petroleum and the consequent impact on oil prices?

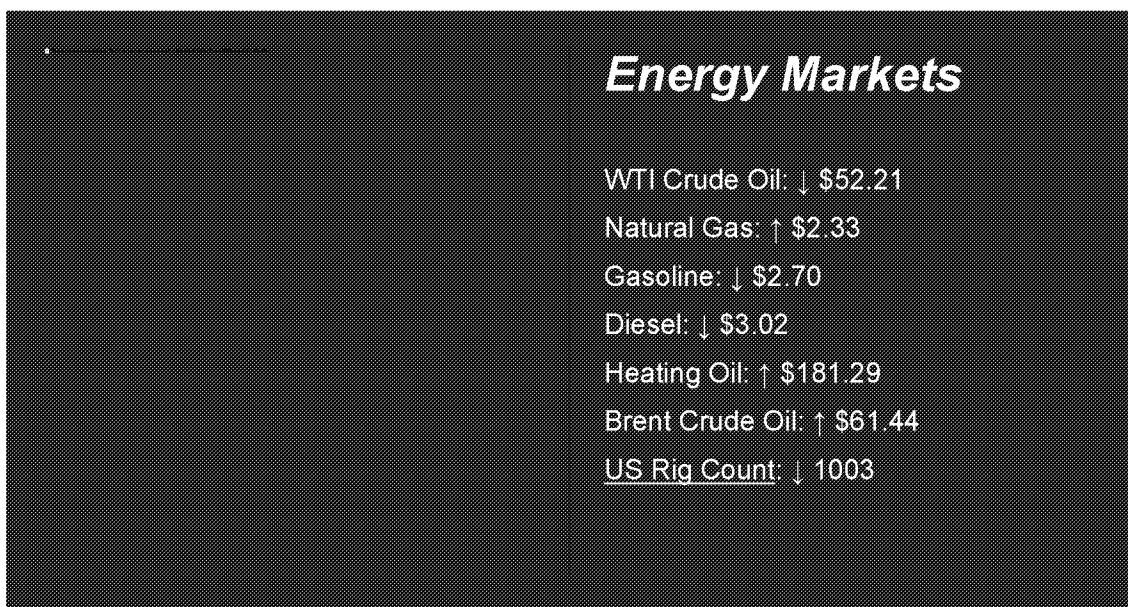
The Daily Caller (6/13/19) reports: "U.S. crude oil imports from the Saudi Arabian-led OPEC fell to a 30-year low, according to the latest federal figures. OPEC imports fell to 1.5 million barrels per day in March, which is the lowest level since March 1986, the U.S. Energy Information Administration reported Thursday. EIA said OPEC imports fell 'as domestic crude oil production has increased.' 'Americans are no longer dependent on foreigners for their energy, and Americans are getting good jobs producing that oil and gas right here at home,' Dan Kish, a distinguished senior fellow at the Institute for Energy Research, told The Daily Caller News Foundation. 'The threat against American energy security has shifted from OPEC to the halls of Congress, where members talk of the Green New Deal and carbon taxes that could torpedo our energy miracle,' Kish said."

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